THE SEVEN-FOLD DEATH OF MEGALOPOLIS – GOD'S HIDDEN SIGN

When the history of "*Mystery Babylon The Great*" from Revelation 17 and 18 are examined from it's commercial history perspective, we discover that it was the ancient merchants of Tarshish that were headquartered first in Tyre, then later in Carthage, Rome and other parts of Europe. In Ezekiel 27, they provide the prophetic model for the last days "merchant bankers" of our era. Today, these men control the world's commerce, operating under the ancient premise that their transactions supersede the laws of the various nations that they use to promote their global profiteering. These men have always operated under the so-called "Law Merchant," which gives them a kind of immunity from the strictures of local practice. Rather, they are a law unto themselves, and their credo is global citizenship. It was always so. Even in the days of Tyre, the market was considered to be worldwide:

"*The ships of Tarshish did sing of thee in thy market: and thou wast replenished, and made very glorious in the midst of the seas*" (Ezekiel 27:25).

Furthermore, their ethics are derived from the pagan religion of Babylon and it's worship of Baal and Ishtar. This "mystery religion" has taken many forms over the ages, from the Babylonian mother-and-child mythology of Ishtar and Tammuz, through the Egyptian Isis and Osiris, the Greek Diana and Dionysus, and the Roman Venus and Adonis. However, at it's heart, it relies upon an initiation into a secret brotherhood. It's members are an exclusive club that worships at the twin altars money and the occultic forces – the gods of business and power. It's banks are it's temples. This is the key to understanding the mystery of Babylon. Down through time, the names of it's deities changes from culture to culture, but their goals and ideas remain the same. With the expansion of Christian missions in the 19th and early 20th centuries, their pagan influence dropped into relative obscurity. But now, the religion of the "goddess" is once again quickly emerging, even within mainline Christian denominations, where she is called "*Sophia,*" the goddess of wisdom.

THE "GREAT CITY"

The Bible predicts that both spiritually and monetarily, Babylon will die a spectacular death. It seems that God has reserved a special measure of his wrath for this system. In Revelation 17 and 18, the merchants and their occultic system of worship are witnessed as they come to a state of total collapse. However, the angelic announcement of Babylon's destruction is given in Revelation 14, where she is associated with the beast and his diabolical system of market controls.

"*And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any*

man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation … " (Revelation 14:8-10).

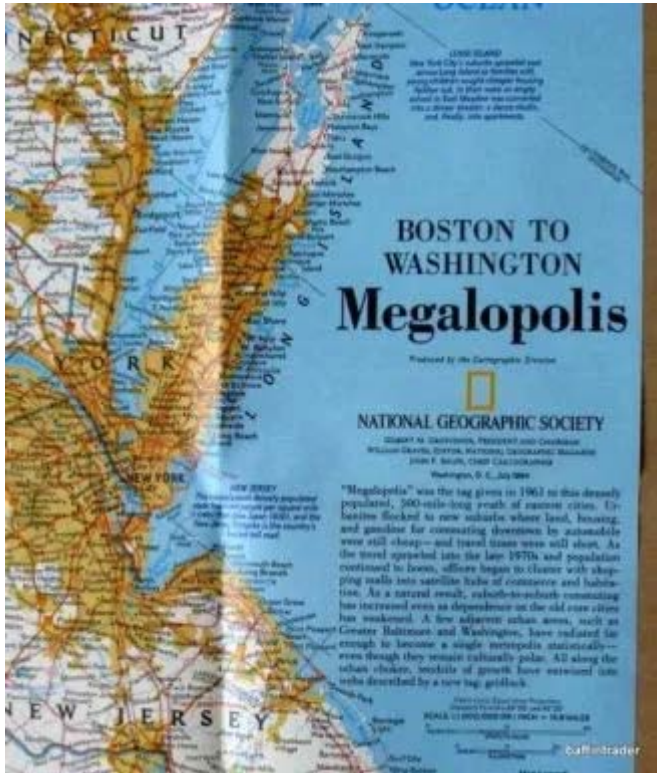
In this passage and several others which follow it (Revelation 16:19/17:18/18:10/18:16/18:18/18:19 and 18:21), the Babylonian system is referred to as "that great city." With the pouring of the seventh vial in Revelation 16:19, the city is addressed in a way that suggests that it is an actual geographic location:

"And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath" (Revelation 16:19).

This raises a very large question. Namely, what city on earth is so large and important that it's destruction can totally halt the merchant traffic, international finance and false worship of the entire world system? For indeed, that is what "Mystery Babylon the Great" actually is – a well orchestrated global operation. The answer seems to be no answer at all. If New York fell, the system would continue. Or if Tokyo, or Rome, or London, or Sydney, or Babylon in Iraq fell, other parts of the market would quickly take up the slack. So what, and where, is the city?

MEGALOPOLIS

Many have attempted to answer this difficult question. But no single answer has thus far seemed satisfactory. For some, their answer is indeed satisfactory, but when the answer is looked at closer, holes exist. But perhaps we can get closer to the solution if we consider the actual designation of the city, as given in the original New Testament Greek language. Both in the announcement of Babylon's doom in Revelation 14:8, and in the succeeding seven-fold actualization of that doom, the city is referred to as *"that great city,"* from the Greek *"he polis he megale"*. Literally, this phrase means *"the city, the great one."* Obviously, it refers to some literal city in a specific geographic location. Or does it? The terms megale, "great" and polis, "city," have come down to us as the English "megalopolis." It uses the same words as those translated *"great city"* in Revelation. The Merriam-Webster New Collegiate Dictionary defines megalopolis as *"1. a very large city 2. a thickly populated region centering in a metropolis or embracing several metropolises."* There are many cities around the world that would fit this description. More and more, the larger metropolitan areas are being connected with super highways which, themselves, become lined with rows of smaller cities that eventually merge into one long municipality. Just this sort of megalopolis is described in a map, published in the July, 1994 National Geographic Magazine. The map, entitled "Boston to Washington, Megalopolis," covers the area of seven cities. Extending southward, the cities are Boston, Providence, Hartford, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington. Over the



Seven major metropolitan areas along our east coast – from Boston to Washington D.C. – have been dubbed a Megalopolis by the July, 1994, National Geographic magazine.

years, they have literally grown together into one great city, or megalopolis. Admittedly, it is a "*great city*." But would it's demise spell the end of the international marketplace that the Bible predicts? As tempting as it is to think so, it seems unlikely. Though it would be stunned, there are many other world market headquarters that could take over and share it's functions. In Bonn, London, Rome, Tokyo and Hong Kong, the computers would continue to hum. Merchant traffic would continue to be redirected, not halted. And there are other megalopolises as well. From Milwaukee, Wisconsin to Rochester, New York, a chain of cities has, for all practical purposes, merged into one megalopolis. Along with these two cities, Chicago, Gary, South Bend, Toledo, Cleveland and Buffalo form one huge metropolitan area. In Europe, the region bounded by Paris, Brussels, Amsterdam and Bonn is a literal megalopolis. Viewed from the air at night, it appears as a single, huge illuminated area. This also happens to be the location of the European Parliament and the economic directorate of the European business community. But here too, it seems unlikely that the destruction of this particular area would cause the world system to grind to a halt. And yet, in Revelation 16 through 19, the "*great city*" is destroyed. The merchants who had invested their very way of life in her, grievously lament her passing. The city is gone, and with it, their business.

SEVEN BLOWS FROM HEAVEN

Following the angelic announcement of Revelation 14:8, Revelation 16:19 features the first of seven judgmental curses upon the woman, the beast and the merchants. It seems to be some sort of geological catastrophe in which the "*great city*" (megalopolis) is "*divided into three parts.*" But this could as well be a global split as a local one. The beast is the final world empire, prophesied by Daniel as the "*fourth beast*" (Daniel 7:23). The woman is the false goddess of the ancient Babylonian mystery religion, variously known as Ishtar, Astarte, Diana, Isis and Venus. She is the goddess of fertility and profit. The merchants are the global moguls of finance and social engineering. In Revelation 17:18, the woman is, herself, called "*that great city.*" Is she Rome, as many have suggested? If so, her destruction could hardly halt world commerce. Or could it? She is shown in a position of rulership over the kings of the earth. Her situation is distinctly global. Revelation 18:10 shows the "great city" as being destroyed in "*one hour.*" Her judgment is catastrophic. Both the kings and the merchants lament her sudden ruin. The next mention of the city is found in Revelation 18:16. Here, she is described as richly and luxuriously clothed in dazzling garments. These were the very garments that were one of the principle profit-makers for the global merchants. Even at present, the international garment trade is a huge and thriving enterprise. In Revelation 18:18 and 19, the "*great city*" is shown burning, with the maritime merchants grieving from afar off. These sea traders watch her burning. And just as at their first appearance in Ezekiel 27:30, "*they cast dust on their heads*" in grief. Since they're at sea, where do they get the dust? Is it some kind of fallout from an enormous explosion? They ...

"*stood afar off, and cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city! And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate*" (Revelation 18:18-19).

Babylon's seventh and final stroke of doom is seen in Revelation 18:21. Here, the "*great city Babylon is thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.*" These seven blows from Heaven end the Gentile domination of planet Earth. Since the days of Nebuchadnezzar and the kings of Tyre, with their international merchant trade, the Gentiles ruled. Seven is the number of completion. The system will be completely destroyed, never to rise again.

NUN: THE SYMBOL OF DOWNFALL

On the subject on Babylon's fall, there is a curious symbolism that appears in the Old Testament. In the Hebrew Masoretic text, there is an alphabetic symbol that appears a total of nine times. It is a special form of the letter *nun*. What makes it special is it's reversed form. Written in it's normal forward confirmation, this letter is said to symbolize faithfulness, soul and emergence. Symbolically, it represents the man who serves God, bending before him in humility. But in it's final form, it stands straight in the final days of judgment. More importantly, this letter is said to symbolize downfall and simultaneous salvation because it is the initial letter of the word "downfall," as in Amos 5:2:

"*The virgin of Israel is fallen; she shall no more rise: she is forsaken upon her land; there is none to raise her up.*"

However, in Amos 9:11, the condition is reversed in the last days:

"In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins and I will build it as in the days of old."

But in it's reversed form, it represents a turning away from the faith. Moreover, it is a symbol of God turning his back in judgment upon a reprobate people. The reversed *nun* is found twice in Numbers chapter 10. The first time, it appears in boldfaced and enlarged form, just prior to Numbers 10:35 and 36 as follows:

"And it came to pass, when the ark set forward, that Moses said, Rise up, Lord, and let thine enemies be scattered; and let them that hate thee flee before thee. And when it rested, he said, Return, O Lord, unto the many thousands of Israel."

Here, it can be easily seen that the reversed *nun* represents the Lord standing in judgment of Israel's enemies. The 36th verse ends the tenth chapter of Numbers. These first ten chapters are characterized by a sense of order, consecration and sanctification, as the people are readied for their desert experience. The eleventh chapter, however, displays a tragic turn in the faith of the Israelites. And just as would be expected, with a decline in the people's faith, there follows a judgment from God. Chapter 11, verse 1 begins with the same boldfaced, reversed *nun*.

"And when the people complained, it displeased the Lord: and the Lord heard it; and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the Lord burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the utter-most parts of the camp."

Here, it is the Israelites who are judged, not the enemies outside the camp. The message is perfectly clear in both cases. God has placed an unmistakable mark in the scripture to commemorate his most significant judgments.

THE REVERSED NUNS OF PSALM 107

With that in mind, it is startling to discover that God has reserved the other seven boldface reverse *nuns* for the last days merchant bankers of Mystery Babylon. In Psalm 107, we find the unmistakable mark once again. It appears just prior to seven very significant verses. It has not been carried over into our English translations. But the unmistakable mark of God's judgment is there, nevertheless. It seems to mark the

Above is a copy of the Hebrew text for Psalm 107. Note the positions of the seven reversed nuns in the text. They are located just before verses 23,24,25,26,27,28 and 40. They represent the downfall of the merchants of Mystery Babylon. The letters are reversed to show God turning his back on the wicked.

seven-fold destruction of the Babylonian merchant system. Six of the reversed *nuns* appear before verses 23 through 28 in the following way:

23 "They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters;

24 These see the works of the Lord, and his wonders in the deep.

25 For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof.

26 They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble.

27 They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wit's end.

28 Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses.

The seventh reversed *nun* occurs just prior to verse 40:

40 He poureth contempt upon princes, and causeth them to wander in the wilderness, where there is no way."

But wait, as stunning as this peculiar mark of divine authorship is, it gets even more significant. Something of great biblical significance is now being acted out on the world stage. A treaty has been in the process of being ratified. It is called the "United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Once ratified, it will be able to rule on issues usually reserved for the local governments of each individual nation. It will effect national sovereignty, navigation rights, international taxation, the environment and energy production. The ancient Lex Mercatoria (Merchant Law) is being revised to prepare for the emergence of a world government, swallowing up the sovereignties of small nations and allowing for central control of all nations by an unelected elite. In the hands of a powerful, unelected few, it could threaten the long tradition of freedom on the high seas – A full 70 percent of the earth's surface. This brings a familiar Bible theme to mind. It is one of the most familiar prophecies in the Bible, a powerful visual image seen and recorded by the Apostle John, as he wrote the book of Revelation. His vision expands upon the book of Daniel, and brings perspective and detail to Daniel's "fourth beast," which represents the final, global world empire. In Daniel, the beast is placed in the context of the three beasts that precede it. In Revelation, it is given a recognizable form and a source of origin:

"And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him" (Revelation 13:1-4).

Daniel describes four world empires as four beasts – the lion, the bear, the leopard and a fierce, unnamed beast with iron teeth. Clearly, the fourth beast is the great sea beast of Revelation 13. It reaches it's peak of power during the approaching seven-year judgment upon earth known as the "Tribulation."

THE WRATH OF GOD: THE GREAT TRIBULATION

The beast of Revelation is composed of all the animals depicted by Daniel, and is therefore, seen as the culminating phase of the Gentile world powers. Usually, the sea from which the beast rises is interpreted as the masses of people who inhabit the globe. And indeed, the metaphor of the sea is often used to indicate the interchange between peoples, tribes and nations, as in Ezekiel's lament upon the King of Tyre. In the following bible scripture, "isles" indicates

"continents" ...

"And say unto Tyrus, O thou that art situate at the entry of the sea, which art a merchant of the people for many isles, Thus saith the Lord God; O Tyrus, thou hast said, I am of perfect beauty" (Ezekiel 27:3).

Or, as John writes in Revelation 17:15 ...

"And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues."

This symbol, in combination with another ancient image, yields a fierce and foreboding picture of the final great world power ...

"In that day the Lord with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea" (Isaiah 27:1).

The defeat of this great sea monster has long been celebrated in Jewish lore. Daniel simply called him "dreadful and terrible," but nevertheless, he shall be completely destroyed at the conclusion of the Tribulation. John's beast gives us the final view of the leviathan.

DO YOU BELIEVE IN DRAGONS?

Of significant and profound prophetic note to be observed is that the year 2007 saw the strong support of the Bush Administration and a receptive Democratic majority approve the Convention by the Committee on a 17-4 majority and "was primed for its first-ever Senate vote." UNCLOS took a huge step forward, even though it is still delayed today. Stunningly, Psalm 107 contains a prophecy for this specific event in the year 2007 singling out those elite who are in power attempting to assemble a wicked system of global governance. Back in the 1980s, J.R. Church discovered that the psalms seem to have been encoded with allusions to modern events that happened in the specific year according to the number of the psalm. Going back through modern history, one can see that this is the case. In looking at Psalm 107, one can see the clues that allude to the emerging world government that picked up steam in the year 2007, the year number of the psalm ... and it just so "happens" that psalm 107 that describes the emerging world government beast, called Mystery Babylon, has seven reversed nuns, indicating it's eventual judgment. Is it a coincidence that UNCLOS took a huge step forward in 2007, representing the Mystery Babylon system described in it's Psalm year 107? The evidence says no.

Truly, God has pre-ordained his judgment upon the world system. The reversed *nun* is said to be a sign of exclusion or diminishment. Without a doubt, it has that meaning here. The merchant bankers are to be excluded from God's Kingdom, their power totally removed. It is also quite significant that Psalm 107 was chosen to carry this mark of condemnation. It is the first of the Deuteronomy book of the Psalms. The Deuteronomy psalms declare the glory of God's Kingdom and express the gratitude of those who were rescued from the Tribulation. In them, God is shown to be merciful toward his repentant people. Most important in this story is God's judgment upon the nations, and especially

upon their greedy, apostate leaders. What better way to begin the Deuteronomy Psalms than with the resounding seven-fold condemnation of Babylon. As *"that great city"* – megalopolis – and it's enslaving merchant traffic is halted once and for all, we see a picture of global destruction. To live up to it's biblical description, this city must be gigantic ... a true megalopolis.

But must it be in one geographic location on planet Earth? Time will tell. Is it the megalopolis of our own east coast? Perhaps. Is it the megalopolis of Europe? Perhaps. But for now, it seems somehow more logical to think of it as a global city. It seems to be a global megalopolis, connected by electronic banking and global merchant trade. If any part of it were toppled, it could still survive and function presumably. But if all it's major links were destroyed *"in one hour"* as Revelation 18 describes, the merchants would truly stay aboard their ships and weep. It's destruction will be swift and complete. Psalm 107, Ezekiel 27 and Revelation 17 and 18 all agree on that. With all of that said, there is a strong mixture of evidence that could point to the city of Rome as being the headquarters from where this global, occultic and Satanic system is being ruled. The text and indication marks of Revelation 17 and 18 suggest this to be the case.

THE WHORE OF BABYLON

Many people today believe that Babylon is Islam. Some people believe that Babylon is literal city like New York. but a further dissecting look at biblical scripture will reveal why this cannot be right. In Revelation 17 Babylon is guilty of committing **"fornication"** and is a **"whore"**. The question, for clarification's sake, must be asked, "what is fornication?" One needs to find out the Biblical meaning of fornication to clarify the true meaning. In the Bible, fornication is the act of committing adultery against God by mixing with other pagan nations and practices (traditions) and going after other gods. One only needs to look at how God described this in the book of Ezekiel when speaking to His people ...

*"You have also committed **fornication** with the Egyptians your neighbors, great of flesh; and have increased your **whoredoms**, to provoke me to anger. You have played the **whore** also with the Assyrians, because you were unsatiable; yes, you have played the **harlot** with them, and yet could not be satisfied. How weak is thine heart, saith the Lord God, seeing you doest all these things, the work of an imperious **whorish woman**; In that you buildest thine eminent place in the head of every way, and makest thine high place in every street; and have not been as an harlot, in that you scornest hire; **But as a wife that committeth [adultery], which taketh strangers instead of her husband**." (Ezekiel 16:26-32).*

Have a good read also of Ezekiel Chapter 23. God's people in the Old Testament committed fornication against God and became a whore. And this is the important biblical point – when God is talking about people committing adultery and being a whore in a prophetic, spiritual sense, like he is in Revelation, he is talking about people committing adultery **against him**, and the only people who can be guilty of committing fornication (adultery) against God today are {professed} Christians. A literal example is of a husband and a wife. Can the wife commit adultery against her husband by going after another man? The answer is yes because she is married to her husband. Can any other woman commit fornication or adultery against the husband? No, because they are not married to him. So it is the same with

God. Those outside the Christian faith cannot commit adultery against God because they are not married to him in the first place. Only Christians can commit adultery against God because Christ is the husband (bridegroom) and the church is his wife (bride). So Babylon the Great has to be a professing Christian church. This being the case, one can now see this vital truth in expelling the idea that Islam could be Mystery Babylon. Islam rejects Jesus Christ as the savior sent forth by God and rejects the idea that Jesus is God incarnate, thus rejecting him as it's savior. This being the case, it is an accurate statement to make that Muslims are not "married" to Christ. He is not there husband, therefore, they cannot commit adultery against God and be a whore because they are not married to him in the first place. Furthermore, Islam does not have the proper system of organization or the global political reach to be able to have control over the kings of the world. Muslims also cannot agree amongst themselves and are constantly warring against each other, therefore, there is only one religion which is regarded as the "mother" church who has the world political reach to be Babylon.

Further Evidence

In Revelation 18, we read about the judgment of the "Whore of Babylon." In verse 23, it says ... "the light of the candle shall shine no more at all in thee, and the voice of the **bridegroom and of the bride** shall be heard no more in thee." Now, have a good thinking session about this ... whether we take this symbolically or literally, there is only one kind of place this could be talking about. If we take this symbolically, then the bride and bridegroom is a biblical reference to Jesus Christ and his church (2 Corinthians 11:2/Matthew 25:6). Also, if we take this literally, then where do we see brides and bridegrooms? The only answer is in a church, therefore, Babylon has to be a professed Christian church.

Take note that Babylon cannot be America or any other country, because Bible prophecy clearly portrays a country as a beast, not a woman. See Daniel 7:23 and Revelation 13. These beasts represent countries. Before reading further, one should note it in their mind that Vatican City is an entity unto itself. Encircled by a 2-mile border with Italy, Vatican City is an independent city-state that covers just over 100 acres, making it one-eighth the size of New York's Central Park. Vatican City is governed as an absolute monarchy with the pope at its head. The Vatican mints its own euros, prints its own stamps, issues passports and license plates, operates media outlets and has its own flag and anthem. One government function it lacks is taxation. Museum admission fees, stamp and souvenir sales and contributions generate the Vatican's revenue. This is an important fact to realize. As noted above in the beginning of this article, the global merchants are a law unto themselves and are not part of any nation, although it is located in the city of Rome. Vatican City State is a sovereign state separate from Italy. Although it is situated in a walled enclave inside the boundaries of the capital of Italy (Rome), it enjoys a separate status according to the Lateran Treaties signed between the state of Italy and the Holy See on February 11th 1929. Its status as a sovereign state is universally recognized by International Law.

God has given us a number of identification marks so that we need not second guess who the whore of Babylon is, also known as Babylon the Great. But first, just to confirm before we get into the various identification marks of Babylon, a woman in prophecy represents a church.

"For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ" (2 Corinthians 11:2).

"For as a young man marries a virgin, so shall thy sons marry thee: and ***as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee"*** *(Isaiah 62:5).*

Christ Jesus is the "husband" of His church and the church is the "bride". And just as the woman in Revelation 12 represents the pure church of Christ, the woman in Revelation 17 represents a fallen, apostate church. So if the whore of Babylon represents a church, then it obviously cannot simply be a city like New York or any other religion like Islam. It HAS to be a PROFESSED Christian church.

"The penetration of the religion of Babylon became so general and well known that Rome was called the 'New Babylon'." (Cardinal Gibbons, Faith of our fathers 1917 ed. p. 106)

So what is the main symbol of this woman riding the beast? It is a clear symbol of a uniting of church and state ... with the church the one being in control.

Let's look at the other identification marks of Babylon the Great to find out exactly who this whore is.

IDENTITY 1 – *Revelation 17:1 ...'I will show unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters.'*

So this church, the whore of Babylon, sits upon many waters. What does this mean? If we let the Bible interpret itself, we can find out the answer ...

"And he saith unto me, ***the waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues"*** *(*Revelation 17:5).

So the waters represent the people and nations around the world. And if you sit upon something, then you are being supported by that object. So this is a church that has WORLDWIDE support from all different people and nations. It is an absolute fact that the Roman Catholic Church is the biggest church in the world with over 1 billion members.

IDENTITY 2 – *Revelation 17:2 ...'the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.'*

"***I learned much from the Order of the Jesuits, said Hitler ... Until now, there has never been anything more grandiose, on the earth, than the hierarchical organization of the Catholic Church. I transferred much of this organization into my own party***." (Hermann Rauschning, former national-socialist chief of the government of Dantzig: 'Hitler m'a dit', (Ed. Co-operation, Paris 1939, pp.266, 267, 273 ss).

So this is a church that has influenced kings throughout the past 2,000 years and continues to have 'diplomatic

relations' with nations all over the world. Now we know from history that the popes of the Roman Catholic Church certainly had 'authority' over the kings of the earth, which is how the Catholic Church was able to have so many Christians killed during the dark ages and inquisitions.

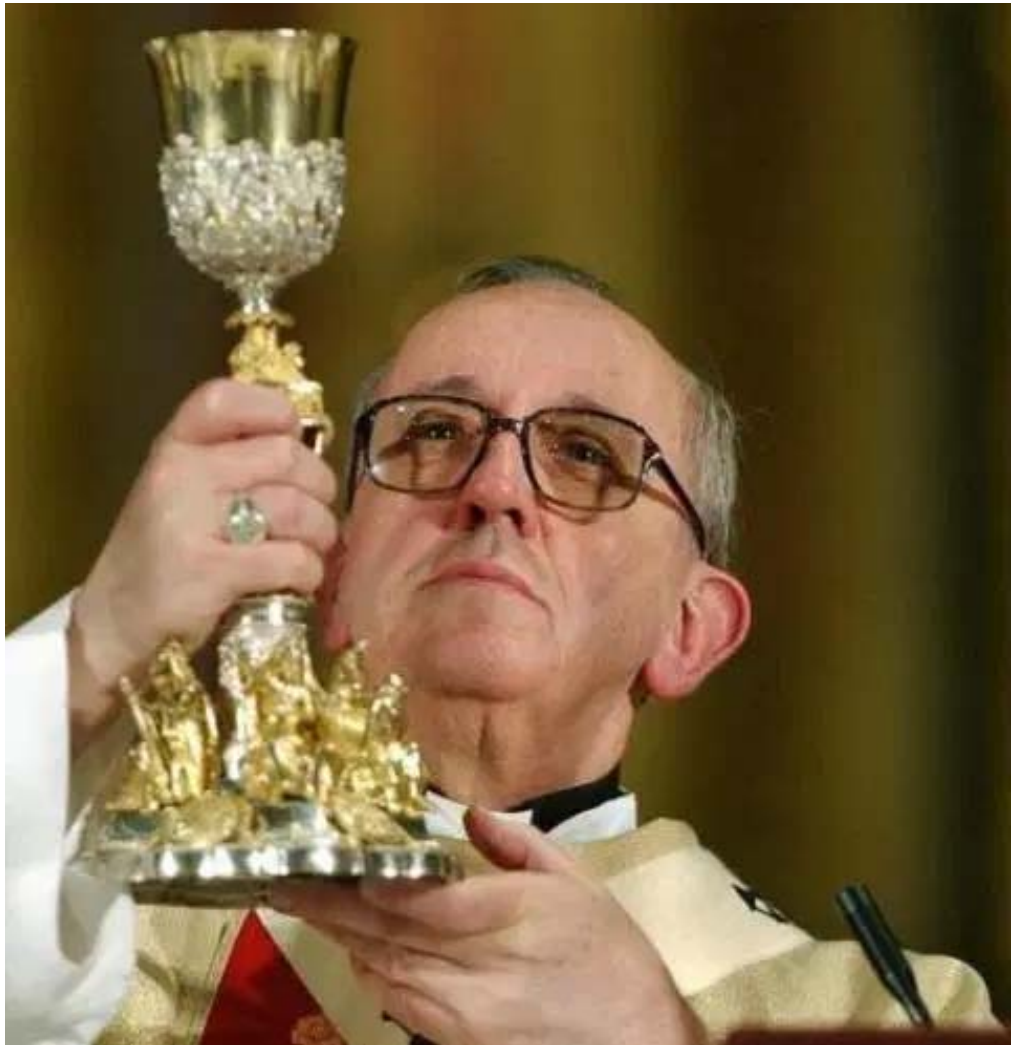
Take a look at this quote from 2007 ... "*The Catholic Church is the* ***only religious institution*** *that can enter into diplomatic relations and that interests itself in international rights, acting through the Holy See, an international sovereign subject of singular characteristics.*" (Monsignor Pietro Parolin, Undersecretary for Relations with States, http://www.zenit.org/en/articles/holy-see-insists-that-it-has-right-to-speak)

This is an amazing quote in which the Catholic undersecretary unwittingly confirms the Roman Catholic Church as being the whore of Babylon! It is the **ONLY** religious institution that can have diplomatic relations with the 'kings of the world.' The Vatican now has diplomatic relations with 180 nations. The inhabitants of the earth have certainly been made drunk with the false teachings (wine) of the Catholic Church. Not only are there over 1 billion Catholics deceived by her teachings, even the majority of Protestant Christians still hold onto some Catholic false doctrines such as Image, cross and relic adoration; Intercession of Mary; Prayers to Mary and the saints; Mass; Confession to priests; Purgatory; Prayers for the dead; Holy water; Lent; Penances; Processions; Pilgrimages; Celibacy of clergy; Monkery. None of these are Biblical institutions. Instead, they are borrowed from Paganism and have been adopted by the harlot church of Rome.

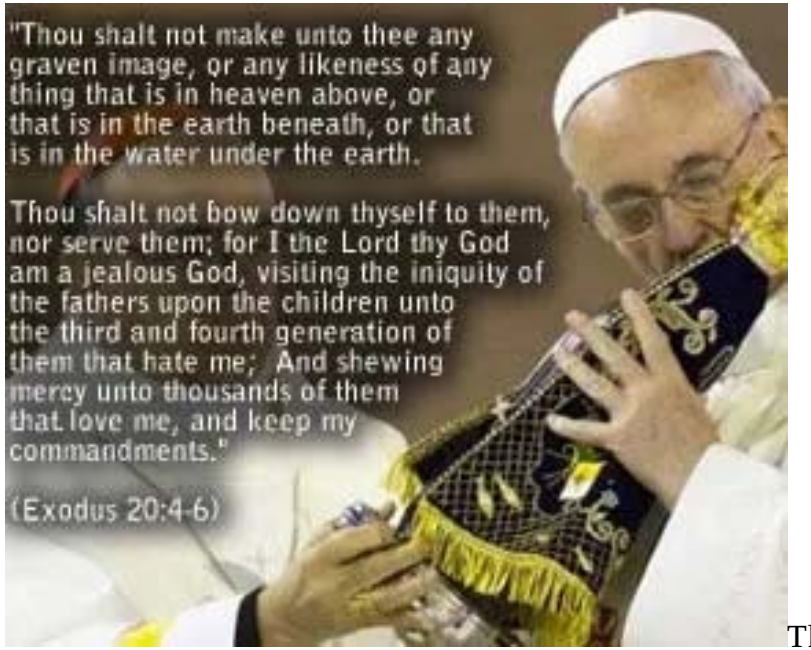
Please see the appendix at the end of this article for a commentary list of catholic false teachings.

IDENTITY 3 – *Revelation 17:4 ...'And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication.'*

So the main colors of this church, the whore of Babylon, is purple and scarlet. And it is also a very wealthy church that is decked out with gold and precious stones. Did you know that the main colors of the Bishops and Cardinals in the Catholic Church are **purple** and **scarlet**? And did you know that the Roman Catholic Church is one of, if not **THE** most wealthiest institution in the world with the Vatican being decked out with **gold** and **precious stones**?



In looking at some of the coins that the Vatican has had produced, you will see images of a woman with a golden cup in her hand on them. It would seem that she is blatantly boasting of who she is!



This cup full of abominations is also a symbol that the sins of this church are so great and full that it is now a fallen, apostate church that can never be the church of Christ Jesus. And the sins of the Roman Catholic Church are immense, with it's idolatry, murder, child abuse and so on, that she has committed throughout her history, and continues to commit. And when the mark of the Papal Church is enforced upon the world, it is then that the message of Revelation 18:2 will go out to the world, and her fall into apostasy will be complete.

IDENTITY 4 – *Revelation 17:5 …'And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.'*

So, the whore of Babylon is shrouded in mystery. The only church that is shrouded in mystery is the Roman Catholic Church. Outsiders are kept in the dark as to what really goes on behind closed doors at the Vatican. There is certainly a lot of mysterious behavior that goes on with the Papacy. And what about Babylon the Great being the "MOTHER of harlots"? It is a fact that the Protestant churches CAME OUT of the Roman Catholic Church. Many of them are now going back to the Catholic Church. There is no other church that has "harlot daughters" like the Papal Church of Rome does. She is even regarded as the "MOTHER" church.

And what church is the "MOTHER" of abominations of the earth? Literal Babylon from the Old Testament is the original mother of abominations, but the Roman Catholic Church is the spiritual mother of abominations that took on many of the Pagan customs of original Babylon.

See THIS SHOCKING LIST of Vatican crimes against children.

IDENTITY 5 – *Revelation 17:6 …'And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.'*

This church, the whore of Babylon, is drunk with the blood of the saints. Now notice that it doesn't say she just has the blood of saints on her hands. It says that she is **DRUNK** with the blood of God's people. So this church is guilty of not just killing a few Christians, she is guilty of killing multitudes of God's people. It is a fact that the Roman Catholic Church has caused tens of millions of Christians to be persecuted and brutally murdered. This woman is the Roman Catholic Church indeed. There is evidence to suggest that it is also responsible for the spread and control of the highly Satanic, deadly and brutal religion of Islam currently sweeping the world. This is one of the methods in which the Roman Catholic Church is responsible for being "*drunken with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.*" The Roman Catholic Church has much blood on it's hands.

IDENTITY 6 – *Revelation 17:18 …'And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.'*

Many people look at this verse and proclaim "*BABYLON IS A CITY, IT'S NEW YORK!!*", and they totally disregard all the other characteristics of Babylon, which show that the whore of Babylon cannot just be a literal city like New York. However, if we take ALL the identification marks together, including this city one, then it becomes irrefutably clear who it is. We know from the evidence that Babylon the Great is a church, so how can we bring this church and city together? What is the one city which is also a church that "reigns" over the nations of the world? What one city, which is also a church, has diplomatic relations with virtually all the world's nations? The answer at this point is indisputably Vatican **City.**

The papacy is so influential and powerful that nearly every major country consults her before making major policy moves. "*Her large diplomatic corps maintains relations with more than 100 nations*" (U.S. News and World Report, October 30, 1978, p. 24).

The Vatican now has 'Diplomatic RELATIONS' with 180 Nations. Only 16 left for her to have **FULL UNION** with the whole world!

IDENTITY 7 – *Revelation 17:6 …'and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.'*

What is the one church that people would look at with awe and wonder? The answer can only be the Roman Catholic

Church, with all her splendor and pomp. Millions

of people flock to the Vatican each year and wonder at the "majesty" and splendor of the place. Not only that, the true definition of this verse is that John wondered with great 'amazement'. Why? This verse is tied in with the persecution by this power upon God's people. But John already saw great persecution upon God's people at the hands of Pagan Rome. So why the 'astonishment'? It is because John sees an actual **"professed"** Christian church doing the persecution and killing God's people. This was an astonishment to the apostle John. The angel showed him the blood that the Roman Church, a professed church of Christ, was to spill in the name of Jesus. And this was perplexing and an astonishment to him.

IDENTITY 8 – *Revelation 17:3 …'and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.'*

This beast is the same as the red 'dragon' we find in Revelation chapter 12. Revelation 12 tells us that the dragon is Satan, 'that old serpant called the devil.' But we need to add some logic to this. Why does the dragon have seven heads and ten horns? The same as the beast in Revelation 13? And Revelation 17 tells us that those ten horns represent kings/kingdoms. So logic would tell us that this dragon does not only represent Satan, but also a civil power. But which civil power? Revelation 12 gives us a strong clue …

Revelation 12:4 …'and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.'

So the dragon waited for this child to be born to kill him. And who is the child? Well, Revelation 12:5 tells us that he was *'caught up to God and His throne.'* There is only one MALE child which ended up going to heaven and more specifically to God's own throne. And that was Jesus Christ. So this child whom Satan wanted to devour as soon as He was born was Jesus. And who did Satan use to try and kill Jesus when He was born? The answer to this question is the king of Rome. So this red dragon also represents Rome.

So which civil power does Revelation 17 tell us the woman gets her 'seat' and 'authority' from? Once again, Rome. And who did the Roman Catholic Church get her seat and authority from? Yes, Rome!

So who is the whore of Babylon? The Roman Catholic Church. No other church, religion, kingdom or institution matches her like the Papal Church of Rome does. God is calling his people out of Babylon and the other fallen churches of the world (Babylon's daughters). On an interesting, and yet peculiar side note, just hours after Pope Benedict stepped down in February of 2013, lightning struck the top of St. Peter's Basillica, not once, but **twice.** When reading of the fall of Mystery Babylon in Revelation 18, one will observe the peculiar wording of it's fall being mentioned **twice** as follows …

"And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great ***is fallen, is fallen,*** *and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird"* (Revelation 18:2).

Was the lightning striking St. Peter's Basillica in Rome **(twice)** after the resignation of Pope Benedict not only a

warning sign, but also a hint or clue that the identity of Mystery Babylon mentioned in Revelation 18 is indeed the headquarters of this global Satanic system?

Although Mystery Babylon is a global system of commerce and trade as pointed out in the beginning of this article, it does indeed seem to have a headquarters from which it is run and operated from. God has pronounced judgment upon this evil system. It will be seven-fold as can be seen in the seven reversed nuns in the Hebrew text of Psalm 107.

AMERICA'S TRUE AND GLORIOUS IDENTIFICATION IN BIBLE PROPHECY

With the false and mistaken belief that America is Mystery Babylon now solidly destroyed, eviscerated, ripped to shreds, pulverized, atomized, crushed, maimed and broken, we can now move the narrative along and seek to identify America's true (and glorious) identification in Bible prophecy. It is unfortunate that more Bible prophecy scholars have missed this identification of America in Bible scripture. There exists a principle in the Bible which teaches that significant events of today almost always have a historical precedent. Moreover, it is God himself who establishes the pattern in the beginning and who causes it to be repeated in the future. He will call the past into account ...

"*That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past*" (Ecclesiastes 3:15).

In Biblical prophecy, symbolism is used to literally represent people or things. For example, a lamb can represent Christ (Revelation 5:5-7), a serpent commonly symbolizes Satan (Revelation 12:9) and a horn on a beast can represent a king or a kingdom (Revelation 17:12). Through prophetic symbolism, the Bible interprets itself. One symbol that represents God dwelling among his people is the tabernacle of Moses.

It was constructed in the wilderness, and hundreds of years later, King Solomon placed it in a magnificent Temple in

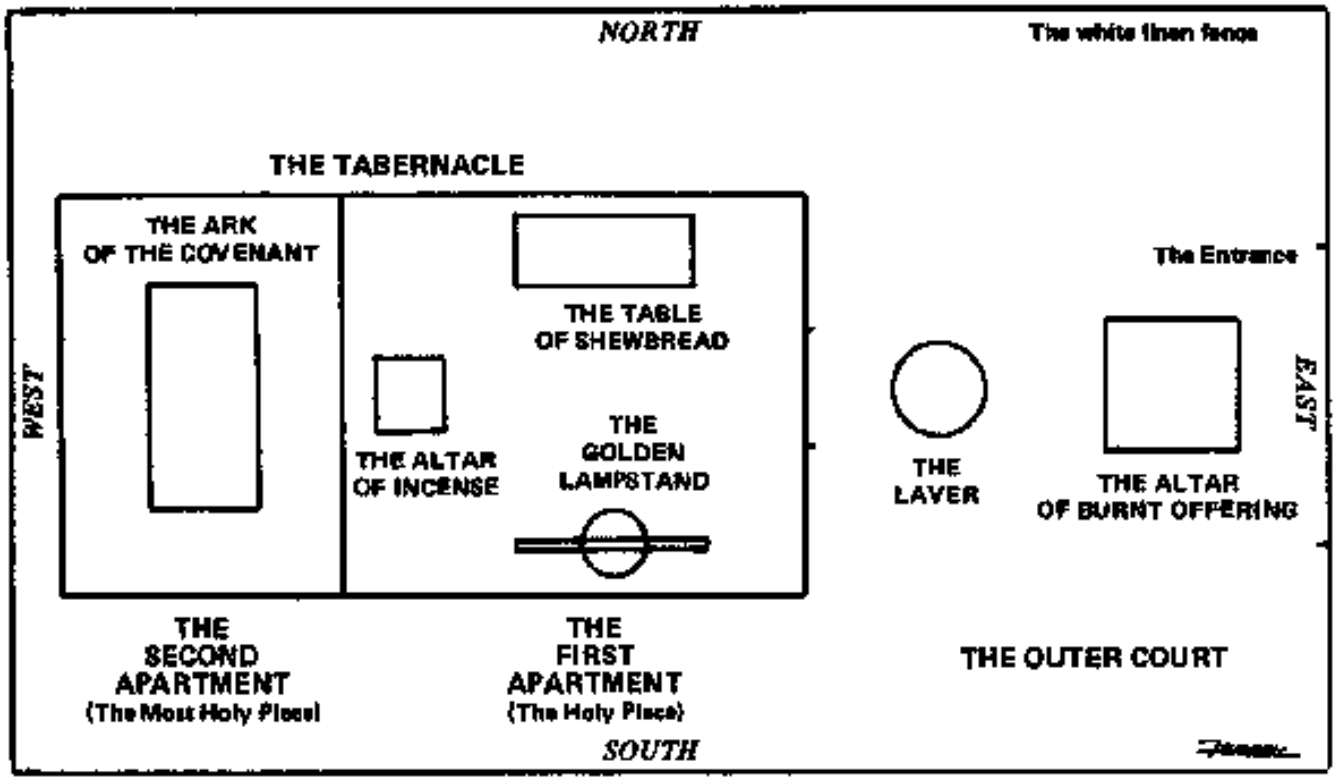
Jerusalem. Both the tabernacle and the Temple consisted of three chambers: the outer court, the inner court and the Holy of Holies. Paul wrote that "our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit" (1 Corinthians 3:16). Every human has a body, soul and spirit because we are created in the image of the triune God (1 Thessalonians 5:3). When comparing the tabernacle and the Temple to our bodies, we discover that the outer court represents the body, the inner court represents the soul and the Holy of Holies represents the human spirit. Each of the three areas of the tabernacle and the Temple contained sacred furniture:

- The outer court had two pieces: the brass altar and the laver of water.
- The inner court had three pieces: the menorah, the table of shewbread and the golden altar.
- The Holy of Holies had one piece: the Ark of the Covenant.

The Old Testament is full of symbolism, along with the prophetic books of Daniel and Revelation. Daniel and Revelation deal with the time of the end and contain many prophecies to be fulfilled in the time before Christ's return. The tabernacle in the wilderness was a portable tent in which God's presence dwelt while the Hebrews received the Law of God (Torah) and prepared to organize a nation (Israel). The actual position of the sacred furniture in the Temple is important in terms of understanding the prophetic significance of the United States.

The Position of the Sacred Furniture Within the Tabernacle

Notice the drawing of the inside of Moses' tabernacle below.



The only entrance was situated on the east, where the tribe of Judah camped. Moving from east to west, take a look at the position of the sacred furniture. The first item of furniture was the brass altar, where the animal sacrifices were offered. Three fires continually burned upon this altar. Two of these three fires were used as backup in case the main fire went out.

The second piece of furniture was the brass laver. This was a large round bowl made of brass that, in Solomon's day, held over 30,000 gallons of water. The priest washed himself and the sacrifices here before entering the inner court.

Three pieces of furniture were located in the inner court. To the south was a candelabra with seven branches, called a menorah. Olive oil was placed in the shafts of the menorah and it was used to light the inner court. Directly across from the Menorah to the north was the table of shewbread. On this table were placed twelve pieces of bread prepared for the priest from grains harvested from the land. Continuing westward was the golden altar. The golden altar was situated just before the large veil in the Temple that separated the inner court from the Holy of Holies. Hot coals of fire and special incense made by the priests were placed on this altar. The coals and the incense represented the prayers of the saints going up before God to Heaven. Traveling westward in a straight line, past the golden altar, the priest had to pass through a giant veil. This veil divided the inner court and the Holy of Holies. The Holy of Holies was the most important room in the tabernacle (and the Temple), and it contained the most important piece of furniture, the Ark of

the Covenant. In the Holy of Holies, God came down and visited with the High Priest once a year on the Day of Atonement. The Day of Atonement was known as Yom Kippur. The entire tabernacle was a dwelling place for the Lord. Each of the six pieces of furniture had a unique purpose and substance ...

THE BRAZEN ALTAR – Fire was the main substance

THE BRASS LAVER – Water was the main substance

THE MENORAH – Oil was the main substance

THE TABLE OF SHEWBREAD – Wheat and grains main substance

THE GOLDEN ALTAR – Coals and spices were the main substance

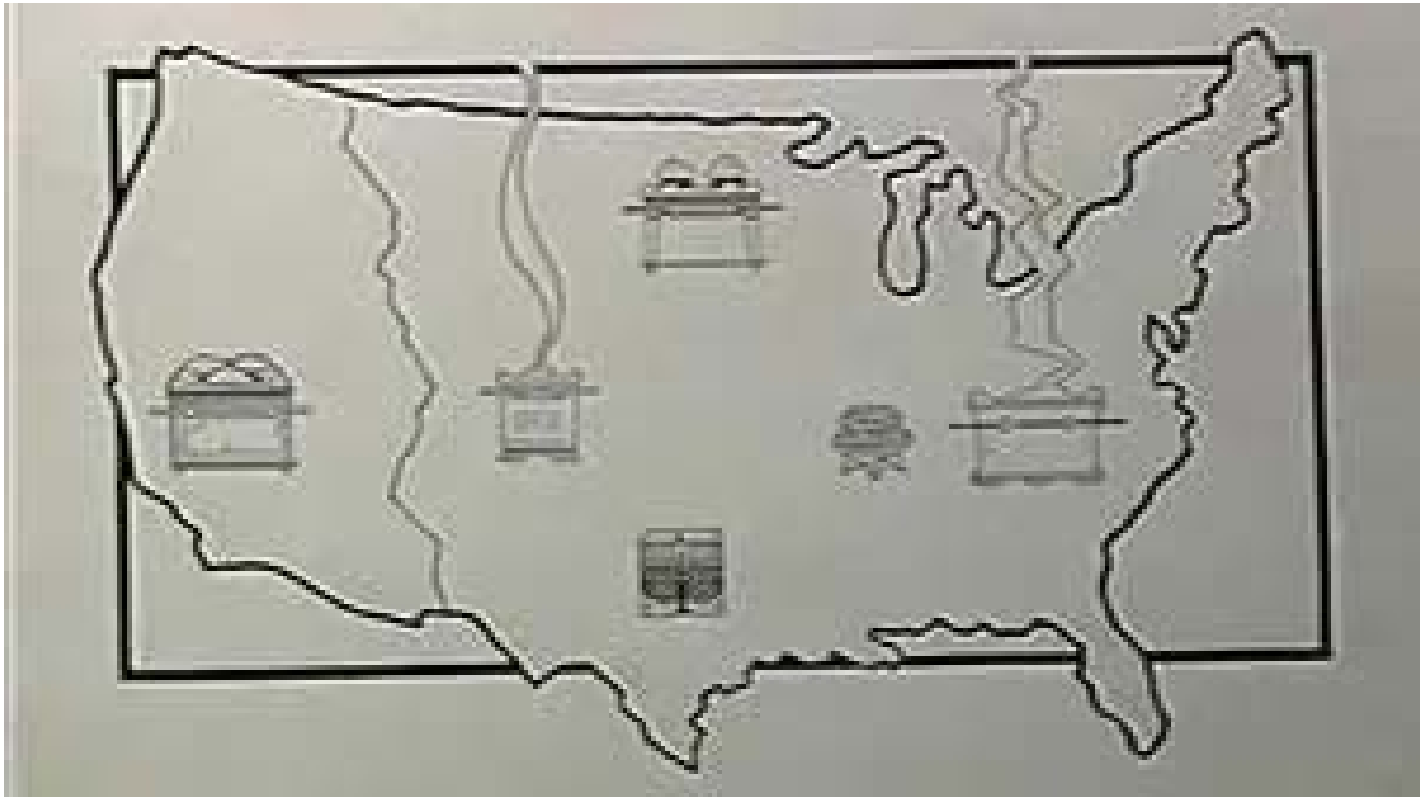
THE ARK OF THE COVENANT – Gold was the main substance

The tabernacle visibly represented the Heavenly Temple, where the Almighty is worshipped. The earthly tabernacle was where the Lord visited his people and spoke directly to Moses and Aaron. Each piece of furniture had a specific spiritual function. Just as the man-made tabernacle provided a dwelling place for the Lord, America was to be a new spiritual tabernacle that welcomed the Holy scriptures and the presence of the Lord. The almighty would have freedom to perform his will through and in his new vineyard! To visually demonstrate this astounding and profoundly amazing fact, we shall now demonstrate the tabernacle pattern that can be seen in America.

The Tabernacle In America

A remarkable and astonishing pattern appears when we superimpose a diagram of the tabernacle over a map of the United States of America. The tabernacle was rectangular with the furniture positioned at precise, predesignated locations. To begin, if one draws a rectangular box around a map of America, and then reproduce a diagram of the tabernacle within the rectangle, and then places each piece of furniture precisely, you will see that the places on the American map that lie beneath each piece of furniture have a similar spiritual significance. The only entrance to the tabernacle was on the east. When the colonists came across the Atlantic, they landed on America's eastern coast and began building, initiating the 13 colonies of America just as there were 13 tribes of Israel. So, in a similar way, America's historic entrance is on the east.

If we place each piece of furniture on the map in the same position as it was in the wilderness tabernacle, we find an amazing pattern that occurs only in America. It will not happen with any other nation on earth! Each piece of tabernacle furniture with a specific purpose and substance correlates to the area of America beneath it (See the diagram map below).



Moving from east to west, the brass altar is over the area of Tennessee and the edge of Kentucky and Virginia. Fire was the central feature on the brass altar. This area of America experienced dynamic revivals before and after the Civil War that impacted the nation. Great revivals **burned** in Kentucky throughout the 1800s. Many people do not realize that the first major outpouring of the Holy Spirit that birthed a major denomination was just outside of Cleveland, Tennessee. In 1896, near Murphy, North Carolina, a group of Baptists

were baptized in the Holy Spirit. From their experience, the Christian Union was formed, which became the Church of God, headquartered in Cleveland, Tennessee. In fact, the oldest continuing Pentecostal Church in the United States is a large, thriving congregation located in Cleveland, Tennessee. The fires that fell in this area correlate to the fire on the brass altar in the tabernacle.

If we continue in a straight line, the next piece of furniture is the brass laver filled with

water. On a map of America, the laver would be positioned over the area where the Mississippi river flows. The mighty Mississippi is recognized as the waterway of America. It propels huge barges with shipping materials and provides irrigation for thousands of farms. The main substance in the laver was water and America's waterway is situated beneath the laver on the diagram above!

The next piece of furniture is the golden candlestick called the menorah. It's main substance was oil. Not surprisingly, the tabernacle menorah is over Texas and Oklahoma, which are America's two major oil producing states! The oil in the menorah was used to light the seven branches of the candlestick. The oil from Texas and Oklahoma is used to produce energy. In early America, lanterns containing oil were used to light colonial homes.

Looking north, we see the table of shewbread where bread made from Israeli-grown wheat was placed. In the diagram above, the table of shewbread appears over the states of Nebraska, Kansas and the Dakotas. These farming states are called America's breadbasket.

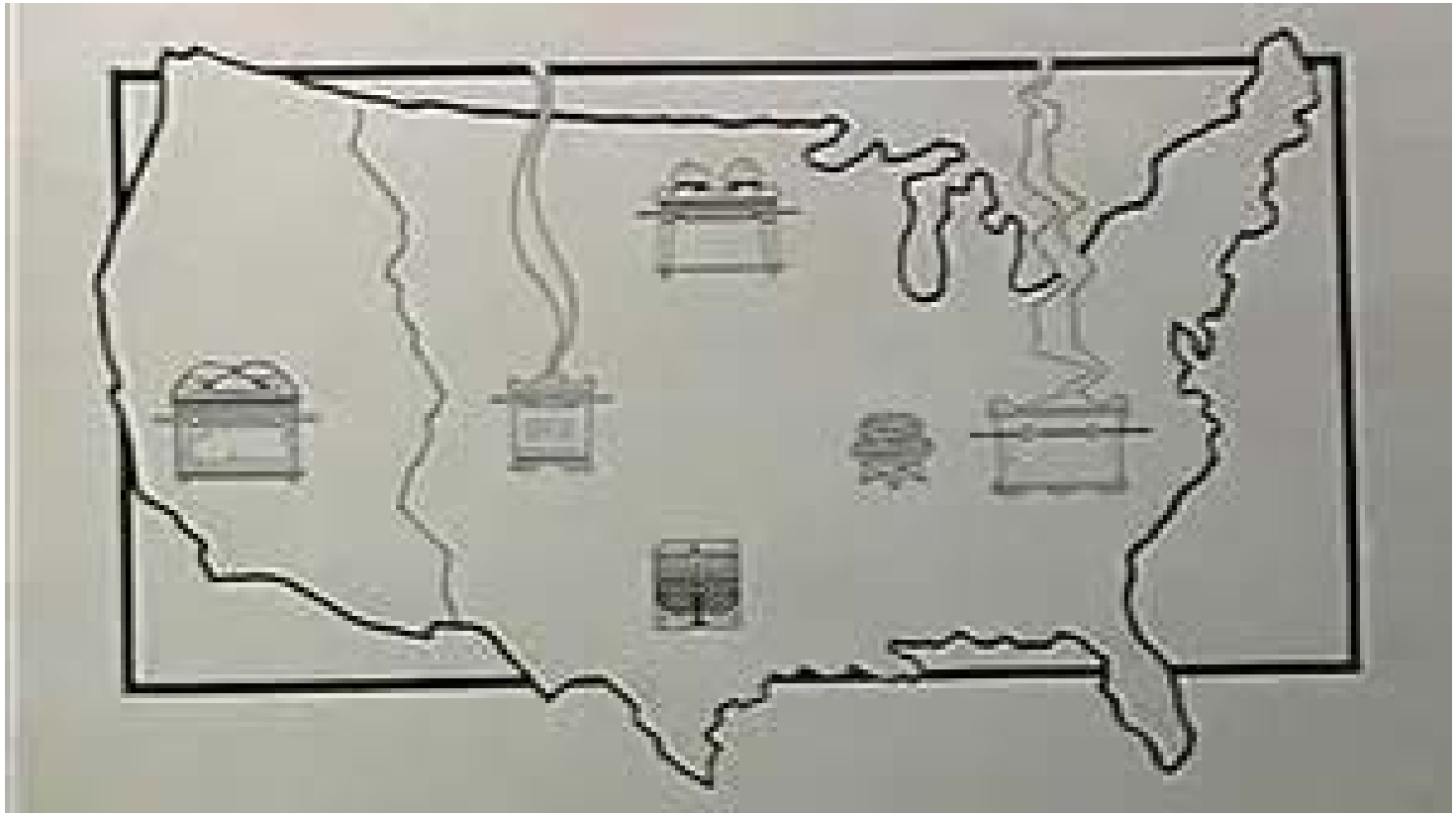
Continuing on, the golden altar lies over the region of Colorado. The main substances on

the golden altar were hot coals of fire and the incense. The incense used in Moses' time was red and contained eleven different types of spices. Some of the incense from the ancient Temple was discovered in Qumran, Israel along with the Dead Sea scrolls. The incense had a deep red color and contained ten of the eleven spices of the Temple incense. The state of Colorado was named after the Colorado River. Spanish explorers named the river Colorado because it means *reddish colored*. Hot coals had to be used on the altar to burn the incense, and Colorado was known for it's coal deposits.

Continuing past the golden altar toward the Holy of Holies, we have to pass through the veil. The veil is over America's continental divide! The continental divide is an imaginary line that marks the highest regions in the country. It is clearly seen on any map of America and on any satellite picture (see the overlay map above).

The Holy of Holies is the most important area of the tabernacle. It contains the golden Ark of the Covenant. This ark is over the area of Nevada and California. Both of these states, especially California, were noted for the discovery of gold. The state of California was founded in the late 1800s because of the gold rush.

The Almighty designed a dwelling place in the wilderness and determined the size and exact location of each piece of furniture. This mobile dwelling place was to be God's dwelling place among his chosen people. Here, they would bring offerings, worship the Almighty and hear God's word through Moses and Aaron. How sovereign that America is the only nation on earth whose geography symbolically correlates with the layout of the wilderness tabernacle!



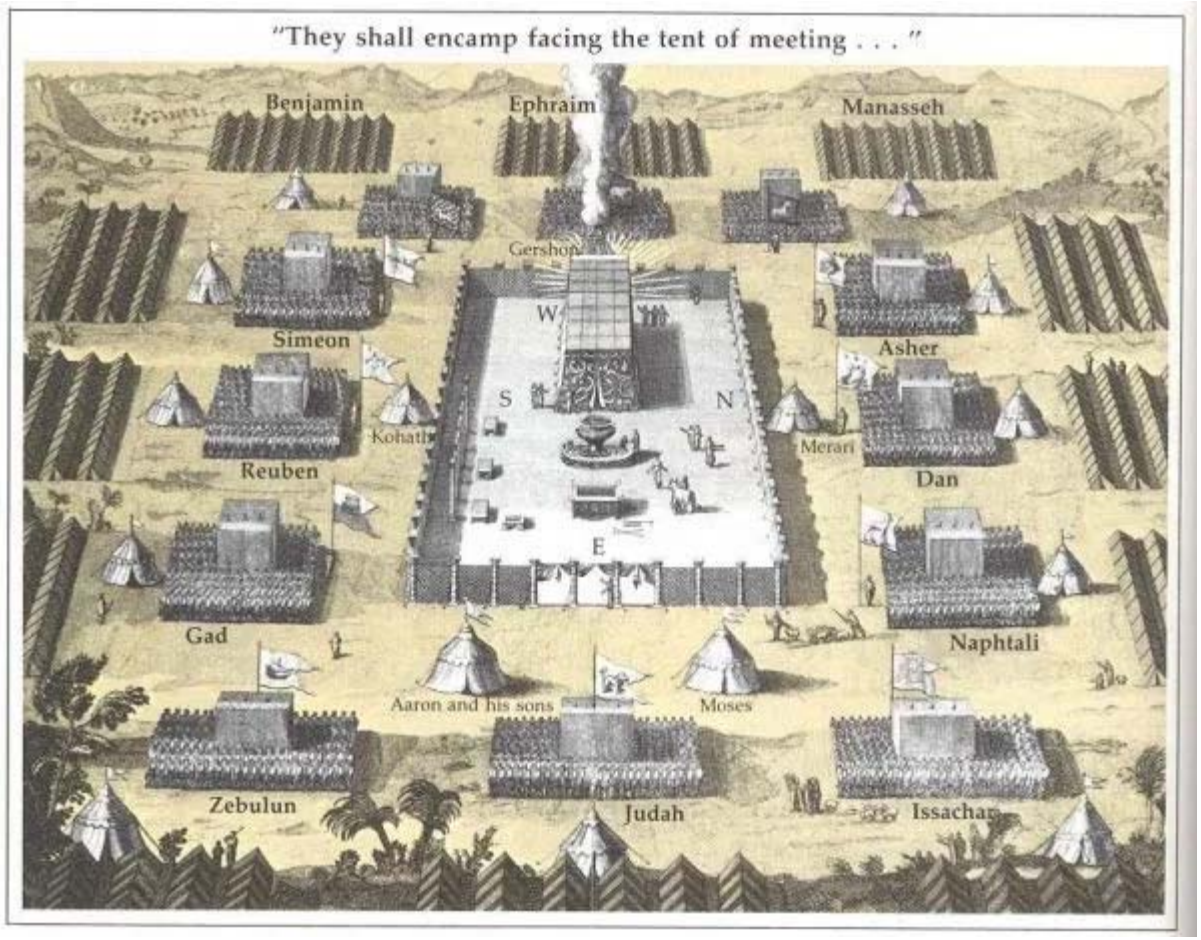
Looking at a map of Cape Cod starting at the tip of Provincetown where the Pilgrims first landed, follow it around to Plymouth, the peninsula forms the letter beit, or a house. Notice the open side of this geographical letter beit is on the north side. The island discovered off the coast had vines, and thus was named "Martha's Vineyard." God chose this area, a vineyard, to start building his house. The prophecy of the transplanted vineyard (America) in Matthew 21: 33-43 is seen here.

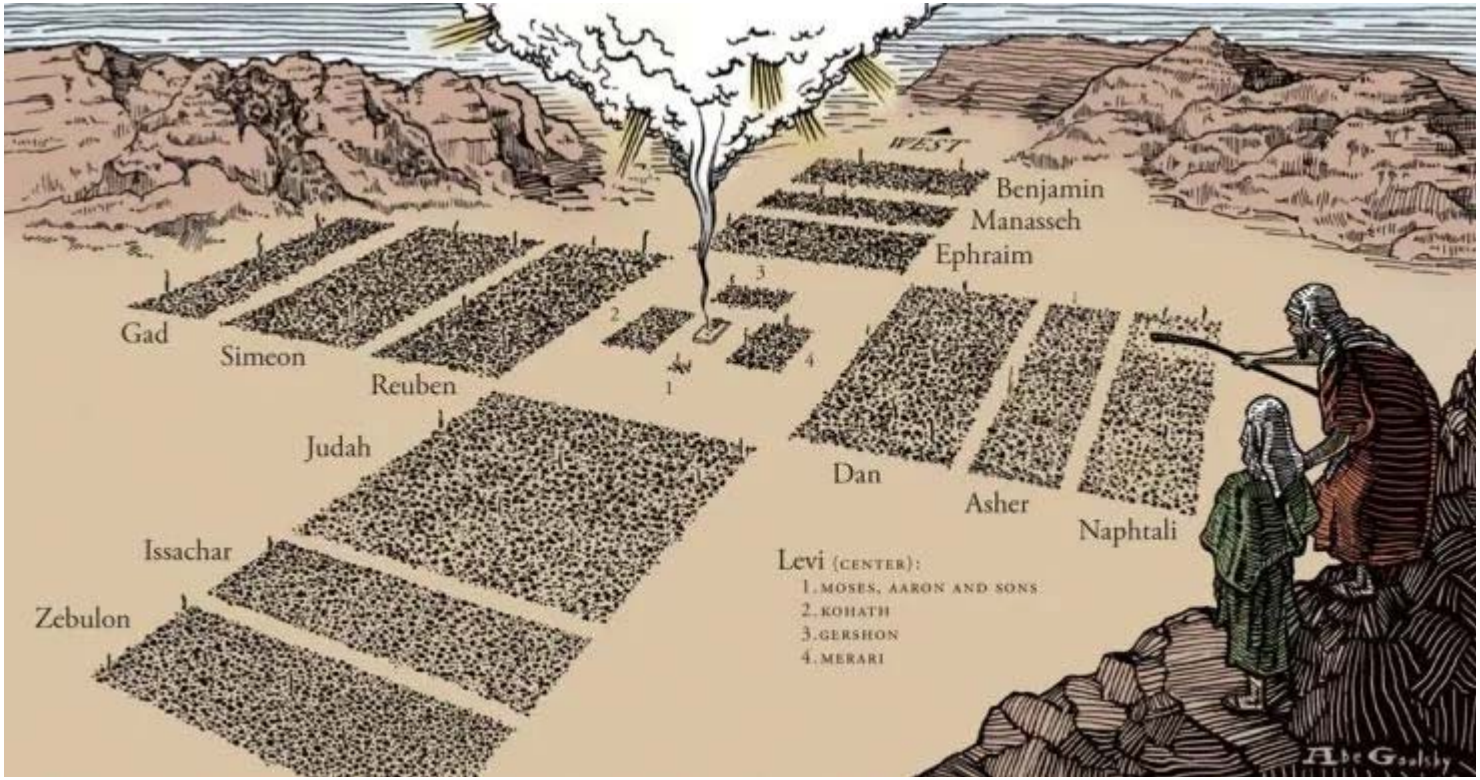
America is a nation that has financed the preaching of the Gospel message of eternal salvation through Christ around the world. It's worship has literally reached heavenly satellites because of freedom and the faith of it's people. Throughout scripture, God used symbolism to reveal his mysteries and his greatness. But it doesn't stop there.

The set-up of the Israelite's camp is described in the first three chapters of Numbers. Numbers 1:1-4 describes how God asked Moses to divide up the Israelites and take a census of the Israelites a little over a year after the Exodus from Egyptian slavery. The camp was arranged into east, south, west, and north sides. The Israelites are given instructions on how they are to set up camp and deploy when they are at rest. Out in the wilderness the Israelites didn't move all that often. They stayed in one location for many months at a time (years in some cases) before they were led by the Shekinah of the fire cloud of God to move again. So when they set up an encampment it wasn't for a weekend of

recreational tent camping. Rather than have some type of disorganized mess, it was necessary to have order. The claimed enormity of 2-3 million people meant that the organization and structure had to be even more precise and organized than if this were but a few people. Not surprisingly a fairly rigid hierarchy is laid out for the Israelites. Of utmost importance is that they are to set up their vast tent village around the Holy Sanctuary. A kind of square-shaped formation would be set up with each division consisting of 3 tribes assigned a particular place. And that place was designated by compass directions east, west, north and south.

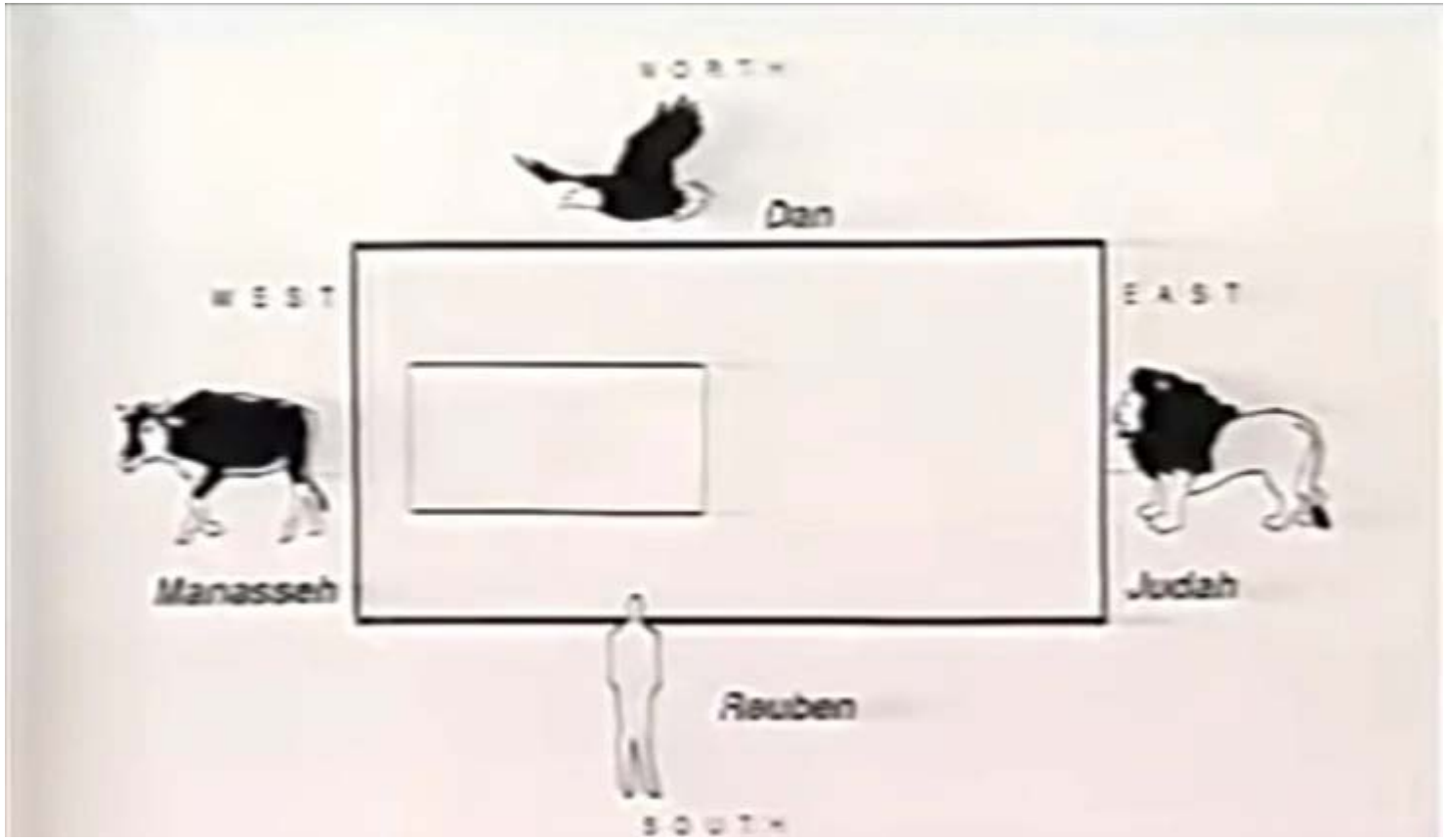
Interestingly, an aerial view of ancient Israel's wilderness camp shows that it's layout formed the shape of a cross with it's various encampment locations of the different Israelite tribes forming that cross. In the center of this large camp sat the Tabernacle of Moses, the tent of meeting where the presence of God dwelt.



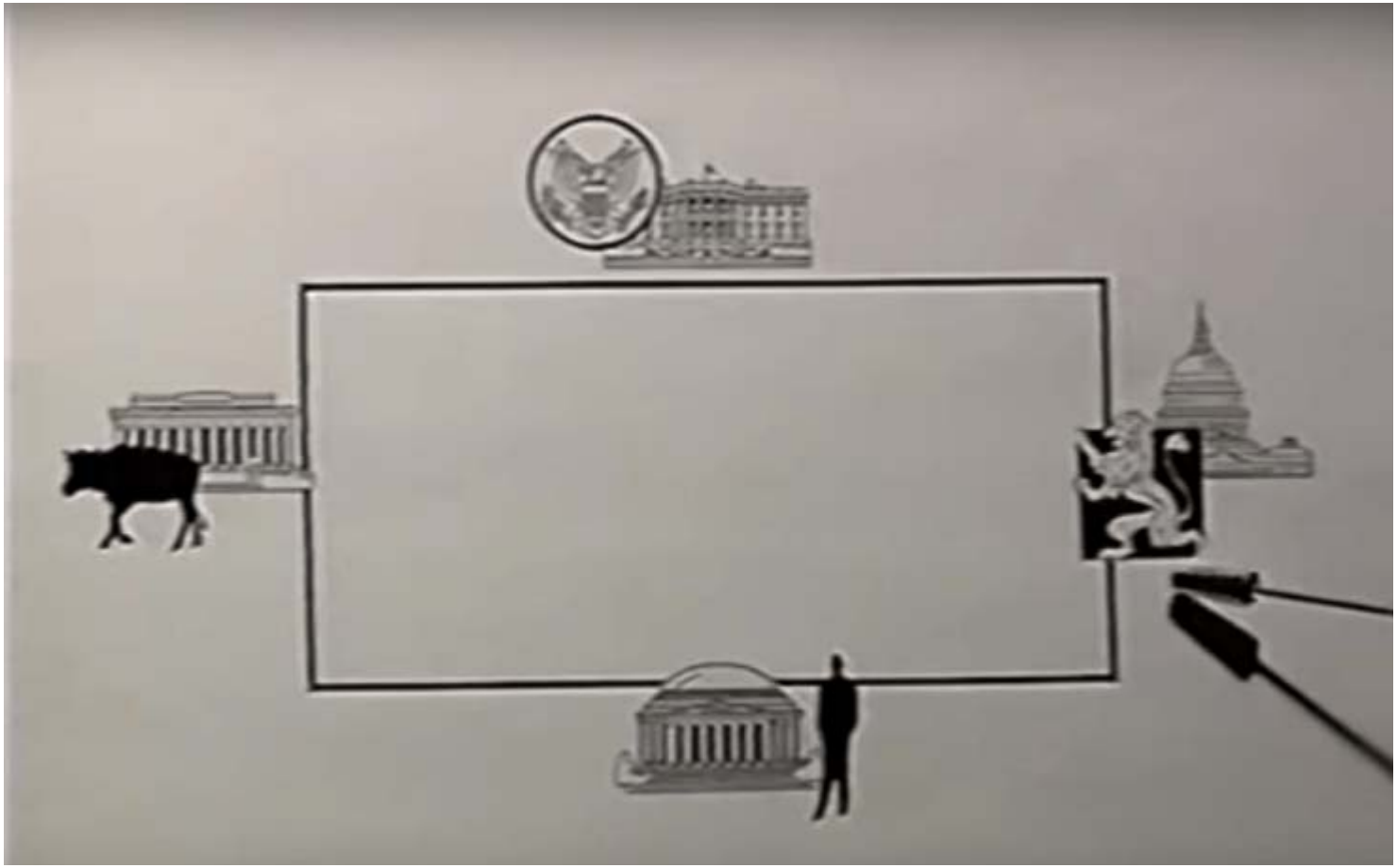


Further study will reveal that the various tribes in this camp around the Tabernacle each had their own emblems. The tribe of Judah to the east had a lion as their emblem, the tribe of Reuben to the south had a man as their emblem, the tribe of Manasseh in the west had an ox (bull) as their emblem and the tribe of Dan was camped to the north whose emblem was the eagle. Interestingly, it turns out that these emblems are the same emblems of the creatures that are seen around the throne of God …

"*And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind. And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle*" (Revelation 4:6-7).



Even more interesting is that in Washington D.C. at the Washington Mall, there are four federal buildings. To the north sits the White House. To the east sits the capitol building, to the south sits the Jefferson Memorial and to the west sits the Lincoln Memorial. Interestingly, those four federal building have the same four emblems to represent them that the tribes of Israel had in the ancient wilderness camp that surrounded the Tabernacle of Moses! They are the same four living creatures that you will find around the throne of God from Revelation 4:6-7 as described above! Furthermore, the positions of those four federal buildings and their emblems fall into the exact same position as the emblems of the four main tribes in the ancient wilderness camps that surrounded the Tabernacle. The emblem of the camp of Israel was the tribe of Dan whose emblem was the eagle, the very emblem of the White House president, the eagle. To the east side sits the capitol building whose emblem is the lion, the emblem of the tribe of Judah who was the law-giver. It is quite interesting indeed that the Capitol building would fall into this position given that the Capitol building is associated with the giving of laws. To the south sits the Jefferson Memorial, which is represented by the emblem of a man, the same emblem that the tribe of Reuben was represented by. On the west side sits the Lincoln memorial, which is represented by an ox or a **bull**, the same emblem of the tribe of Manasseh that sat in the same position in the wilderness camp.



Interestingly, Abraham Lincoln is known as the president that presided over America during the Civil War and the first battle of of the war was called **Bull Run** (the name used by Union forces), also known as the **First Battle of Manassas** (the name used by Confederate forces). It was the first major battle of the American Civil War and was a Confederate victory. The battle was fought on July 21, 1861 in Prince William County in Virginia just north of the city of **Manassas**! It should be noted that the tribe of Manasseh was divided within itself at one point, paralleling it to Lincoln's presidency during the Civil War in which America was divided between the North and the South. All these Washington D.C. Mall emblems, like the ancient Wilderness camp of Israel, share the same emblems that are around the throne of God in their respective locations and positions. But it does not end there, if one looks at an aerial view of the Washington D.C. Mall, one will notice that it too forms the shape of a cross, just as the ancient Wilderness Camp that surrounded the Tabernacle did.

It is difficult to determine for certain whether the Washington D.C. Mall was purposely designed to reflect the wilderness camp. However, given the many remarkable parallels of America with ancient Israel, it was very likely divinely orchestrated and planned. In helping to further the case that the Washington Mall cross was a God-inspired happening, or perhaps we can say a God inspired hint dropping of his purpose for America, let's consider the following. In the year 1992, the Hubble Space Telescope took a picture of the center of the Whirlpool Galaxy. It is an interacting grand design spiral galaxy in the constellation Canes Venatici. It was the first galaxy to be classified as a spiral galaxy.

Tellingly, there is a black hole in it's center that is emitting gases of some type that form the shape of a cross. Interestingly enough, the Whirlpool Galaxy was discovered around the time that America was gaining it's independence and becoming a sovereign and free nation.

The Colors of the Tabernacle

I've mentioned the colors of the veil in the Tabernacle previously, but for sake of some indepth insight, let's review some interesting observations concerning these colors again in a bit more detail. In reading about the colors of the Tabernacle in scripture, one will discover that there are three main colors that God specifically commanded Moses to construct the Tabernacle with.

"*Moreover you shall make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine woven linen and* ***blue, purple and scarlet*** *thread; with artistic designs of cherubim you shall weave them*" (Exodus 26:1).

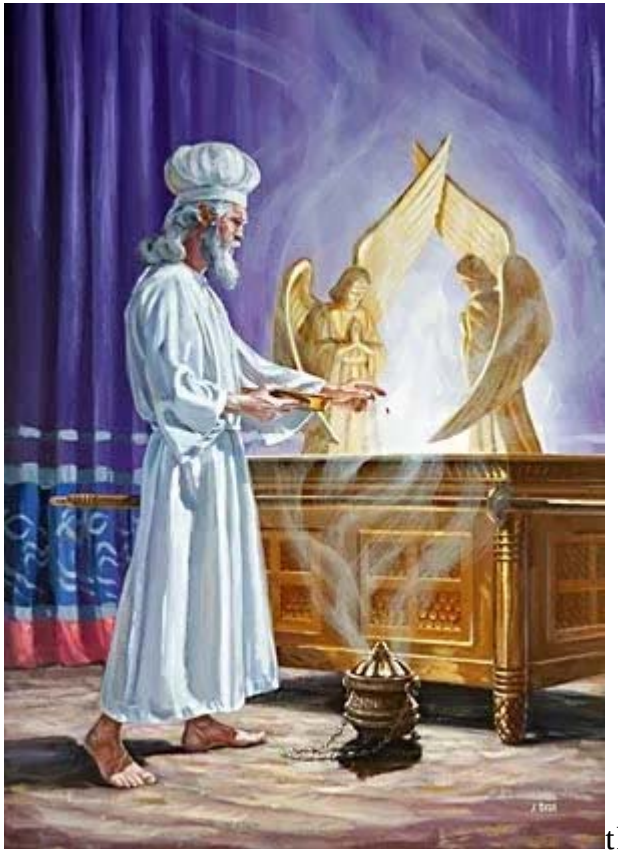
"*Moreover you shall make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine woven linen and* ***blue, purple and scarlet*** *thread; with artistic designs of cherubim you shall weave them"* (Exodus 26:31).

It shouldn't come as a surprise to anyone that, just as Hebrew is a language of picture writing like Chinese, colors also have meaning. Colors, just like numbers, play a very significant role in the Bible, from the High Priest's garments to the furnishings, the coverings, the curtains and all of the implements in the Tabernacle. Everything was designed according to God's exact specifications which He gave to Moses on Mt. Sinai like a heavenly blueprint. There were three main colors: **Blue**, **purple** and **scarlet (red)**. They appear again and again throughout the tabernacle, from it's coverings and curtains, to the garments of the high priest.

A fourth color, the pure **white** linen which is not readily visible, served as the foundation of every fabric. With regard to the High Priest's service on the Day of Atonement the Bible states ...

"*He shall put on the holy linen tunic, and he shall have the linen pants upon his flesh, and he shall be girded with a linen belt, and with the linen turban he shall be attired*" (Leviticus 16:4).

The four garments worn by the High Priest on the Day of Atonement are the tunic, pants, the turban and the belt. These garments are made from **white** flax; hence their designation "**the white garments**." They must be woven, as



mentioned above, and each thread used must be six-ply – woven from six individual strands of fabric.

The High Priest had two tunics which he wore on the Day of Atonement. One-he wore in the morning, and the other at the evening. After the conclusion of the Day of Atonement, he will never again wear the white garments in which he officiated on this day. They are hidden in the place where he removes them, as the verse indicates ...

"*And Aaron shall come into the Tent of Meeting, and he shall take off the linen garments, which he put on when he went into the holy place, and he shall leave them there*" (Leviticus 16:23)

The ordinary priests wear four garments all year round-these are the same as the "white garments" worn by the High Priest on the Day of Atonement: tunic, pants, hat, and belt. Referring to these priests, the verse states ...

"*And for Aaron's sons you shall make for them tunics, and you shall make for them belts, and you shall make for them hats... and make for them linen pants...*" (Exodus 28:40-42).

These garment are to be made from flax, and they too must be created from threads consisting of six individual

strands. The high priest's garments were unique in their construction in that there was a **fifth element** woven throughout: **Pure gold thread.** Gold in the Bible depicts God's divinity. It gave to the fabric a sheen as well as durability. Five is also the number of grace. White speaks of purity and righteousness. Blue typifies God's divinity. You might say it is the color of God. God made the sky **blue** to reflect the glory of His beloved Son. When everyone looks up at the sky, what do they see? Only blue, of course. That's all the unsaved see. You and I, however, look beyond the "Veil of blue." Our faith allows us to look beyond the blue and see The One who sits at the right hand of the Father. Do you remember the last time anyone who is unsaved saw Jesus? At the cross, but after He arose, he only appeared to believers. Forty days later, He ascended back to His Father and is hidden from the unregenerate behind "The veil of blue sky." Even in the Old Testament, unbelievers only saw, "The Blue." Wherever the Ark traveled, it was covered first with the Temple veil, then badger Skin, and finally, a blue cloth. In fact, no one outside of the priests ever saw the actual Ark: They only saw the blue. This is indicative that Jesus is only revealed to believers. As for the other colors, "**purple"** depicts His royalty and **red** is a picture of his human side, as well as his shed blood upon the cross of Calvary. These three colors are always recorded in the same order: **Blue, purple, scarlet.** Even the order is a message.

Before Jesus was born as a human baby, he was all God, or you could say "all blue." Humans, of course, are red blooded. "Adam," one of the words for "man," in Hebrew, literally means "red-blooded man." In modern Israel the word for blood is the word, "*dam*," which is the root word of *"A-dam*." Jesus, the "All blue," was born of Mary, an "All red," you might say, and God became something He never was before: **PURPLE: Fully God and Man. Jesus, the "All blue," was born of Mary, an "All red," you might say, and God became something he never was before: PURPLE: Fully God and Man.** If you remember your finger painting days in kindergarten when you mixed red and blue, you may remember the color that you got as the result ... purple! Jesus, the "all blue," was born of Mary, an "all red," and He became The Perfect Human. As saved, born again believers having received Christ as savior, we start out as "All red," accept as our savior the "All blue," and we also become purple, which is royalty like Jesus. He made us kings and priests in the Kingdom of God. Let's drive that point home and scripturally confirm that fact ...

"*And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,* ***And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father****; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen"* (Revelation 1:6).

"*And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;* ***And hast made us unto our God kings and priests****: and we shall reign on the earth* (Revelation 5:10).

"*But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light …*" (1 Peter 2:9).

We are indeed king priests after the order of Melchizedek ... like Jesus. Once this color change happens, there is nothing and no one that can reverse it ... including you. This is one of the many ways that God is telling us that our salvation is irrevocable, irreversible and unchangeable. We are eternally secure in him. So, summing it all up, we see

Jesus, grace and the message of salvation in the very colors of the Tabernacle. These colors are red, white, blue and purple. Before even saying another word, many of you already know where this is going. It is interesting to say the least that the colors of the American flag are red, white and blue.

Some who are a little older may recognize the patriotic phrase the good old "red, white and blue" when referring to the United States of America and the colors of it's flag. Is all of this a coincidence? I think it's rather foolish at this point to say that it is given all the previous observations concerning America and it's peculiar connection to the Tabernacle. At this point, I think it's safe to say that we can see a divine hand at work here in this great and glorious land.

The Great Vineyard Prophecy

The first thing that we should take note of in fleshing out this prophecy is that ancient Israel and the Jews were referred to in scripture as God's vineyard. We see this clearly in Isaiah 5 ...

"*Now will I sing to my well beloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My well beloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill: And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard. What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes? And now go to;* ***I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be eaten up; and break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden down: And I will lay it waste: it shall not be pruned, nor digged;***

but there shall come up briers and thorns: I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant*: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry"* (Isaiah 5:1-7).

It is clear in this prophecy that, as a result of Israel's rejection of Jesus Christ as the promised Messiah, that God was going to take the vineyard from Israel and transplant it to the Gentiles. The Tabernacle of Moses that hosted the presence of God within the Wilderness Camp foretold the first coming of Jesus as God's presence among them and manifested itself as such when he "tabernacled" among them. But they rejected him, leading to Jesus' statement and prophecy that he would take the vineyard (the Kingdom of God) from them and give it to a nation that would bring forth fruit in it's season. We know that this prophecy started after Israel's rejection and destruction when God turned his attention from Israel to the Gentiles.

I think by now the case has been conclusively made that the Tabernacle of Moses represented Jesus Christ and his message of salvation that can be found only in him ... a message that would see it's fulfillment with the first coming of Christ to ancient Israel and the Jews in the New Testament. Today, the Tabernacle and it's message peculiarly finds itself ensconced within a nation called the United States of America. To further show that this is the case, let's look at the aforementioned prophecy that was introduced by Jesus approximately 2000 years ago concerning the transplanting of the vineyard from Israel to the Gentiles ...

"*Hear another parable: There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country: And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it. And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise. But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son. But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance. And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him. When the lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen? They say unto him, He will miserably destroy those wicked men,****and will let out his vineyard unto other husbandmen****, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons. Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? Therefore say I unto you,* ***The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof***" (Matthew 21:33-43).

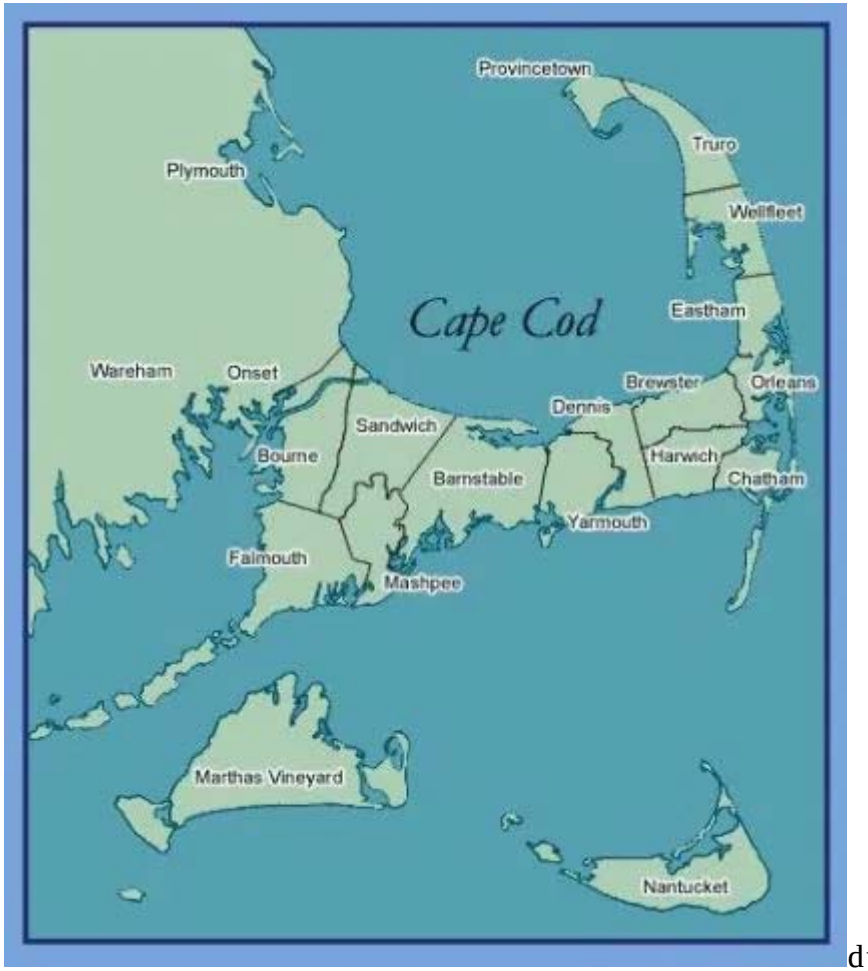
The apostle Peter's words tell us that the church is "a holy nation" and a "royal priesthood" ...

"*Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood,* ***an holy nation****, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called*

you out of darkness into his marvellous light …" (1 Peter 2:7-9).

Some would contend, based on 1 Peter 2:7-9, that the church generally speaking is this nation. In part this may be correct. However, due to the particular word used in Jesus' prophecy of the word "nation,' it becomes highly credible that he was referring to a specific group, nation or race of people. There are several uses of this Greek word "nation." One is "*genos*," which means "a race" or "kind." The second word or use of nation in Greek is *allophulos*, which means "another tribe" "foreign or of another race." The use of this word can be found in Acts 10:28. But the third and most common word in the New Testament for nation is "*ethnos*," meaning a nation or people. This is the particular rendering of the word "nation" that Jesus used in his prophecy of the vineyard in Matthew 21 when he dramatically stated that he would take the kingdom of God, or vineyard, from Israel and give it to another nation. We know from history that England was the nation or group of people that first printed the King James Bible and it was the beginning of the common man being able to own their own personal copy of the scriptures. Up until that point, it was only the religious priests and clerics and such that would be in possession of the scriptures and be read to the common people. When the printing of scripture into English was commissioned by King James of England, that nation became a great world power. It controlled the world both politically and economically. Generally speaking, it's citizens enjoyed freedoms that were alien to the rest of the world. It was the power (the English people, or ethnos) that would play the most significant role in the settlement and development of this land called America. America would then go on to become the youngest and the most powerful nation on Earth that would then begin to become the leading nation to produce spiritual fruit for the Kingdom of God. So when Jesus said that the Kingdom of God would be taken from Israel and given to a nation that would produce the spiritual fruits, he was indeed speaking of a certain group or *ethnos* (ethnicity). The Tabernacle of Moses vividly demonstrates this fact in it's peculiar geographic correlation with the United States of America. To further develop and reveal this prophecy, let's now look at America's "Cape Cod."

Looking at a map of Cape Cod starting at the tip of Provincetown where the Pilgrims first landed, if one follow it around to Plymouth, the peninsula forms the letter beit, which carries the spiritual meaning of a house. Beit also represents



the number 2, indicating duality or a splitting apart. The message of the two views of salvation are in view in this letter. We also know that Jesus stated that he came to bring a sword of division between Jews and Gentiles ...

"*But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven. Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword*" (Matthew 10:33-34).

As Gentiles, we know that the Jews of Israel have rejected Christ as Messiah ...

"*For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in*" (Romans 11:25).

Here, we see two houses. We see a split or dichotomy between the Jews and the Gentiles. We know that in scripture, Jesus is referred to as the "Master or head of the house." Notice the open side of this geographical letter beit is on the

north side. The island discovered off the coast had vines, and thus was named "**Martha's Vineyard**." God chose this area, a **vineyard**, to start building his house. The Kingdom of God was taken from Israel and transplanted to the Gentiles. The prophecy of the transplanted vineyard (America) in Matthew 21: 33-43 is seen here. We now have a nation called America that has been a last days lighthouse to the world for the gospel message of salvation through Christ. A modern-day tabernacle that God has raised up for a special purpose that no other nation shares. There is nowhere that this transplanting of the vineyard from Israel to the Gentiles prophecy can be seen any more dramatically than in America and it's peculiar history and continuing present-day purpose ... right on down to it's very geography. With that said, let's keep on building the case with more evidence that America is God's modern-day Tabernacle, the end times vineyard as expressed by Jesus in Matthew 21.

In March 30, 1492, Columbus received the order to prepare his voyage the same day that

the Jewish expulsion from Spain was read aloud. 1491//92 corresponds to the Hebrew year 5252. It spells in Hebrew "Harnov", which means "Mount of Fruit." Har is to "rise up" and Nov means to "germinate or flourish and produce fruit." This is yet more evidence that God raised up America to bring forth fruit in the end times according to the prophecy of the vineyard in Matthew 21:33-43. In light of this astounding fact regarding Columbus, let's take a look at another extremely interesting piece of evidence regarding the prophecy of the transplanted vineyard as it relates to America.

In 1636, members of the Massachusettes Bay Colony founded the colony of Connecticut. The founders of the Connecticut colony were Thomas Hooker and Governor John Haynes. In 1636, Hooker and Haynes led 100 people to

settle Hartford. Under the influence of Thomas Hooker, who was a Puritan minister, the settlers passed the "Fundamental Orders of Connecticut". This document laid out the fundamental governing principals of the colony. Soon after the founding of the colony the settlers entered into a war with Pequot tribe. The settlers vanquished the Native Americans and forced them to surrender.

A separate colony was established in New Haven In the spring of 1638, when that city was founded. In the following two years additional towns were established at Milford, Guilford and Stamford. These cities, together with Southold on Long Island and Branford, became the republic of New Haven. The colonies in Connecticut flourished as separate entities. However, limited hostilities with New Netherlands convinced the colonies to combine. On May 30th 1662, King Charles II gave the colony of Connecticut an official charter. He granted the colony rule under the very constitution that it had approved (based on the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut). In 1687, the governor of New England demanded that the Connecticut assembly disband. Connecticut history developed its own lore when the charter of the state was secretly taken from the assembly and hidden in an oak tree that became known as the "Charter oak." Two years later Connecticut returned to self-government.

The colony of Connecticut was a producer of wheat and livestock. It was a significant exporter of lumber and a major shipbuilder. Connecticut was an overwhelmingly Puritan state, with the Puritan Congregational church being the only official church in the colony.

This colony reinforced the religious freedom and code of law that the Bay Colony had instituted in Massachusettes. The Vineyard theme carried over into this colony. The Connecticut State motto is "**He who transplants still sustains**." The transplanted vineyard of America prophecy of Matthew 21:33-43 is seen here. The state seal of Connecticut has a picture of three grapevines representing a vineyard (pictured below).

Norwegian Leif Ericson is known to be the first European to land in the American continent 500 years before

Christopher Columbus. When he first set foot on the continent, he called the area

"Vinland" or "Wineland" because of the number of grapes growing here. The name Leif means "*beloved*" and the name Eric means "*the ever powerful*." Taken together, you have the phrase "*The beloved son of the ever powerful*." In case the connection may not be clicking in your thinking right now, we as Christians know that Jesus Christ is the beloved son of the ever powerful God. Leif's very name and what it means taken together with the name he chose for discovering a new land that was very fertile again takes us straight to the prophecy of Jesus in Matthew 21:33-43 regarding the "Vineyard." Think about the staggering implications of that given all the other divinely orchestrated peculiarities of America. Interestingly, we see Jesus' commission to the disciples to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every person ...

"*And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.* [16] *He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned"*(Mark 16:15-16).

Let's stick this knife in a little further and twist it some more to hopefully make it more clear what divine providence is doing here. The "beloved son of the ever powerful" has warned in his commission to the disciples that he who does not believe is condemned. Interestingly, Leif Eriksson (beloved son of the ever powerful) sighted and visited two new lands before he discovered Vinland. The first of the two is Helluland, as in **"Hell"uland.** This was most probably Baffin Island. The name Helluland was given by him during his voyage to Vinland according to the Greenland Saga and means "Land of Flat Rocks" or "Land of Flat Stones" in the old Norse language. Helluland was said to be the first of three lands in North America visited by Ericson. He decided against trying to settle there because he found the land "inhospitable." He continued south to Markland (probably Labrador) and Vinland (possibly Newfoundland). The Icelandic Saga of Erik the Red (who was Leif Ericson's Father) and the Greenland Saga characterized Helluland as a land of flat stones (Old Norse: *hella*). Most scholars agree that Helluland corresponds to Baffin Island in the present-day Canadian territory of Nunavut. This would put this territory (Helluland) outside of America.

In the Saga of Halfdan Eysteinsson (Hálfdanar saga Eysteinssonar), written no earlier than the mid-14th century a fragment says: "**Ragnar brought Helluland's obygdir under his sway and destroyed all the giants there**..." He was greeted with the sight of numerous large flat stones, which met and stopped where large great mountains of ice began. It was a land entirely "devoid of good qualities," he decided, and before sailing away, Leif named this new land Helluland (**flat stone land**). The fact that this land discovered before arriving to Vinland was outside of America (shall we say, outside of the gospel Tabernacle?) should say plenty to us at this point. Let me say it like this, the land outside safety in Christ (son of the ever powerful) is a place called Hell! It's very interesting that this place was not a part of Vinland, or the vineyard (America) which represents and preaches the message of Christ as it eventually would. One can accurately say that the reason Helluland was not part of Vinland is because divine providence dictated that outside of his "tabernacle" of safety lies Hell, as in Helluland. Jesus Christ is referred to as the **stone** which the builders rejected ...

"*The **stone** the builders rejected has become the capstone*" (Psalm 118:22).

The image comes from the ancient quarries where highly-trained stonemasons carefully chose the stones used in construction. No stone was more important than the cornerstone because the integrity of the whole structure depended

on the cornerstone containing exactly the right lines. If the cornerstone was not exactly right, the entire building would be out of line. For that reason, builders inspected many stones, rejecting each one until they found the one they wanted. Rejected stones might be used in other parts of the building, but they would never become the cornerstone or the capstone (the first and last stones put in place). When Peter preached to the Jewish leaders in Acts 4:8–12, he quoted Psalm 118:22 to show that Jesus is the rejected stone whom God made to be the cornerstone of salvation. They (the Jewish leaders) rejected him, but God not only accepted him but put him in the position of highest honor. Peter pressed the point home with this powerful conclusion: "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). These words are utterly exclusive. There is no other hope, no other way, and no other name than the name of Jesus. If we would be saved, we must come God's way or we won't come at all and end up in the land "devoid of good qualities" as Leif Erikson observed upon his observation of "Hell"uland. In one final and equally as interesting note regarding God's hint dropping taking place here, Leif Ericson statues can be found all over the world. What did Jesus say in the great commission? *"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature ...*" (Mark 16:15).

The second land Leif discovered was of more interest. Pulling ashore, he and his men briefly explored the area, and commented on its thick forests which covered much of the level expanse. Leif named this place "Markland," as in "**book of Mark**"land (Wood Land) and it was most probably Labrador Island. The book of Mark is where we find the most prominent and stark warning of the gospel message of salvation from the "beloved son of the ever powerful" one ...

"*And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved;* ***but he that believeth not shall be damned"*** (Mark 16:15-16).

I think we can see what the Lord was up to with Leif Ericson and his voyage to this new land. It is a stark message, but one of hope.

Liberty Enlightening The World

The Statue of Liberty is officially known as, "*Liberty Enlightening the World*." But to many she is "Lady Liberty," "The Lady" or even just "the Statue." The copper statue, a gift from the people of France to the people of the United States. The statue was dedicated on October 28, 1886. The Statue of Liberty is said to be a figure of "Libertas," a robed Roman liberty goddess. She holds a torch above her head with her right hand, and in her left hand carries a tabula ansata inscribed in Roman numerals with "JULY IV MDCCLXXVI" (July 4, 1776), the date of America's Declaration of Independence. One would not be wrong in thinking that this statue was intended by the globalist occultic elite to be a symbol to the Roman goddess and perhaps very occultic in it's message. In fact, there are a great number of great scholars who could point out those very valid facts, but here is the thing that one must remember. Although the occult symbolism and agenda of the Illuminati and Freemasonry that has secretly ruled America from behind the scenes over the years has been very visibly apparent for those with the eyes to see, it is important to understand that these secret occult societies have always operated in secret because of the powerful Christian ethos that has characterized this nation by divine decree. These secret groups migrated over to the New World with the Christian pilgrims and founders

and operated in secret. Indeed, America is and always has been a Christian nation founded upon biblical principles, which has made it the greatest nation of wealth, prosperity and power that the world has ever seen. Some look at America's occultism and incorrectly come to the conclusion that it is an occultic nation with no divine hand of God upon it for any glorious purpose. This is an incorrect assumption. Though the revealed information regarding America's occultic connections to the Illuminati's purpose for this nation is indeed observably correct, it is not at all accurate to assume and come to the conclusion that America is not a nation that has a special divine purpose born from the mind of God himself. Evidence of this can now be observed given all the above information and very observable evidence. Although some very dark and occultic forces behind the scenes have a special design, plan and purpose for America, namely to bring about it's destruction after using it's power, wealth and global influence to create a global system called Mystery Babylon mentioned in scripture in Revelation 17 and 18, one must realize that the bigger plan, purpose and design of America comes from God himself ... and the evidence of this fact can be seen as already demonstrated. America has a much more glorious purpose and calling from the Almighty.

Given the profound and very visual evidence that God raised up America as part of the vineyard prophecy of Matthew 21 to bring forth spiritual fruit and declare the gospel message of salvation to the world, it is rather interesting that this globally iconic statue named "Liberty" sits in New York Harbor given what 2 Corinthians 3:17 tells us about liberty.

***"... where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty"* (2 Corinthians 3:17).**

America has enjoyed freedom and liberty like no other nation in history. That liberty, along with it's blessed people, have produced the greatest amount of wealth, power and global influence the world has ever witnessed. Why? Because liberty has always characterized this great and glorious land. Where did that liberty come from? It is quite evident that God raised up the right men at the right time in order to instill a government that would produce that liberty. In the end, the ultimate source of that liberty came from God. The evidence shows that as demonstrated. With the Statue of Liberty, it appears that God really stuck the knife in and twisted it in all directions on this one. While the statue to the globalist occultic elite who run our world would have it represent goddess worship and all things occultic, God seems to stick it in the eye of the evil one and his proxies and declares that Liberty from the darkness of the world shall be found only in his son Jesus Christ. Now looking at all the evidence for America's purpose, it is more realistic to say that this is the **real** message of the Statue of Liberty, and thus it is God's ultimate purpose for America ... to declare the liberty of the human soul and the blessings that come with it that can only be found in him. The results of this are the blessings of national and individual liberty that come with it. National and individual liberty naturally results in massive wealth creation, influence and the resulting power of such.

All that said, let's take a look at the number 50. Leviticus chapter 25 ordains a sabbath year, one in every seven (verses 1-7), and a jubilee year one in every fifty (verses 8-17) to sanctify Israel's internal economy. Fifty is the year of Jubilee for ancient Israel ...

"*And the Lord spake unto Moses in mount Sinai, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye come into the land which I give you, then shall the land keep a sabbath unto the Lord. Six years thou shalt sow thy field, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof; But in the seventh year shall be a sabbath of rest unto the land, a sabbath for the Lord: thou shalt neither sow thy field, nor prune thy vineyard. That which groweth of its own accord of thy harvest thou shalt not reap, neither gather the grapes of thy vine undressed: for it is a year of rest unto the land. And the sabbath of the land shall be meat for you; for thee, and for thy servant, and for thy maid, and for thy hired servant, and for thy stranger that sojourneth with thee. And for thy cattle, and for the beast that are in thy land, shall all the increase thereof be meat. And thou shalt number seven sabbaths of years unto thee, seven times seven years; and the space of the seven sabbaths of years shall be unto thee forty and nine years. Then shalt thou cause the trumpet of the jubile to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month, in the day of atonement shall ye make the trumpet sound throughout all your land. And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubile unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family*" (Leviticus 25:1-10).

In the sabbath year, each field was to lie fallow, which appears to be a sound agricultural practice. The year of jubilee was much more radical. Every **fiftieth** year, all leased or mortgaged lands were to be returned to their original owners, and all slaves and bonded laborers were to be freed (verse 10). This naturally posed difficulties in banking and land transactions, and special provisions were designed to ameliorate them (verses 15-16), which we will explore in a moment. The underlying intent is the same as seen in the law of gleaning (Leviticus 19:9-10) to ensure that everyone had access to the means of production, whether the family farm or simply the fruits of their own labor. After Israel conquered Canaan, the land was assigned to Israel's clans and families as described in Numbers 26 and Joshua 15-22. This land was never to be sold in perpetuity for it belonged to the Lord, not the people (verses 23-24) The effect of the jubilee was to prevent any family from becoming permanently landless through sale, mortgage or permanent lease of its assigned land. In essence, any sale of land was really a term lease that could last no longer than the next year of jubilee (verse 15). This provided a means for the destitute to raise money (by leasing the land) without depriving the family's future generations of the means of production. The rules of Leviticus 25 are not easy to figure out, and Milgrom makes good sense of them as he defines three progressive stages of destitution.

1. The first stage is depicted in Leviticus 25:25-28. A person could simply become poor. The presumed scenario is that of a farmer who borrowed money to buy seed but did not harvest enough to repay the loan. He therefore must sell some of the land to a buyer in order to cover the debt and buy seed for the next planting. If there was a person who belonged to the farmer's clan who wished to act as a "redeemer", he could pay the buyer according to the number of remaining annual crops until the jubilee year when it reverted to the farmer. Until that time, the land belonged to the redeemer, who allowed the farmer to work it.
2. The second stage was more serious (Leviticus 25:35-38). Assuming that the land was not redeemed and the farmer again fell into debt from which he could not recover, he would forfeit all of his land to the creditor. In this

case, the creditor must lend the farmer the funds necessary to continue working as a tenant farmer on his own land, but must not charge him interest. The farmer would amortize this loan with the profit made from the crops, perhaps eliminating the debt. If so, the farmer would regain his land. If the loan was not fully repaid before the jubilee, then at that time the land would revert back to the farmer or his heirs.

3. The third stage was more serious still (Leviticus 25:39-43). Assuming that the farmer in the previous stage could neither pay on the loan or even support himself and his family, he would become temporarily bound to the household of the creditor. As a bound laborer he would work for wages, which were entirely for reduction of the debt. At the year of jubilee, he would regain his land and his freedom (Leviticus 25:41). Throughout these years, the creditor must not work him as a slave, sell him as a slave, or rule over him harshly (Leviticus 25:42-43). The creditor must "fear God" (reverence God) by accepting the fact that all of God's people are God's servants whom he graciously brought out from Egypt. No one else can own them because God already does.

The point of these rules is that Israelites were never to become slaves to other Israelites. It was conceivable, though, that impoverished Israelites might sell themselves as slaves to wealthy resident aliens living in the land (Leviticus 25:47-55). Even if this happened, the sale must not be permanent. People who sold themselves must retain the right to buy themselves out of slavery if they prospered. If not, a near relative could intervene as a "redeemer" who would pay the foreigner according to the number of years left until the jubilee when the impoverished Israelites were to be released. During that time, they were not to be treated harshly but be regarded as hired workers. It was during this 50th year that you would celebrate by eating off of the land, you blow the trumpets etc. This was a time of rejoicing. Interestingly, America has 50 states in it's union. There are a total of 50 stars representing the 50 states of America. What is most striking is that America was and still is known across the world as "the land of the free and the home of the brave." Liberty. Freedom. It is the theme of America. The Jubilee of ancient Israel that God implemented was

known for it's theme of freedom being proclaimed throughout the land every 50 years. It doesn't stop there. The charter of Pennsylvania was written by William Penn and adopted in 1701. William Penn was an English colonial proprietor and the son of the admiral and politician Sir William Penn. Penn was a writer, early Quaker, and founder of the English North American colony the Province of Pennsylvania. The Charter of Privileges, effective October 28, 1701, and sometimes known as the "*Charter of Liberties*," functioned as Pennsylvania's constitution until the American Revolution.

It replaced several attempts since the colony's 1681 establishment to create a viable frame of government. Interestingly, **fifty** years later in 1751, a bell was cast called the "**Liberty Bell**." Isaac Norris, a Quaker, selected a portion of Leviticus 25:10 proclaiming Liberty throughout all of the land to the inhabitants thereof …

"*And ye shall hallow the **fiftieth year**, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof …*" (Leviticus 25:10).

This verse of scripture was then carved on this bell. The "**Liberty Bell**" became an early symbol of America just as the Statue of Liberty is today.

The original Liberty Bell is displayed in a magnificent glass chamber with Independence Hall in the background. The building also offers a video presentation and exhibits about this now famous symbol of liberty.

It was a bell that represented liberty and freedom in the land. It occurred 50 years after William Penn's charter.

As we can now plainly see, America is known for it's theme of Liberty. Liberty is a theme throughout all of scripture, which centers around Jesus Christ. Interestingly, Jesus Christ spoke quite dramatically of liberty in the book of Luke ...

"*And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all. And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind,* ***to set at liberty them that are bruised****, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears. And all bare him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth ...*" (Luke 4:14-23).

Going back to the statue of Liberty, whatever other dark purpose and function that this iconic statue may or may not hold, it is more interesting to me that this statue has a peculiar other representation given all of the other evidence concerning America's true history and purpose. As always, God seems to lift up a higher standard apart from any evil representation this statue may have and put his fingerprint and message upon it. So much so that it is a statue whose official name is "**Liberty Enlightening The World**." Enlightening the known world with the liberty of the gospel message is exactly what Jesus told the disciples to do with the message of the gospel in his day. It is exactly America's historical and continuing function to this very day. Hearkening back to the story of Leif Ericson (beloved son of the ever powerful), it is very interesting to me that the two lands he discovered outside of Vinland (the Vinyard) was called "Helluland" and "Markland," given that the warning of condemnation are for those who are found outside of Christ, recorded in the book of Mark. It is indeed very interesting that Jesus spoke very profoundly of liberty in Luke 4 above given America's purpose as the vineyard of Jesus' gospel message that Liefson (son of the everpowerful) set foot upon. I think you can now see the picture. Let that one sink in for just a few moments. While that is sinking in, let's remind the reader one more time about the dramatic source of liberty as it relates to America and the liberty she has enjoyed like no other nation has since it's beginnings ...

"*Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty*" (2 Corinthians 3:17).

It should be very evident by now that America has had the special presence of the Lord within her from the very start. Let's build that case some more.

America's Constitution And The Godhead

Seven years after the end of the American Revolution, the Constitutional Convention adapted the Constitution of the United States. Interestingly, there were 10 original amendments, corresponding to the Bible's 10 commandments. The number 7 is the biblical number of perfection and this number is displayed in God's dealings throughout scripture. The Constitution ordained three branches of government... the Executive branch, the Judicial branch and the Legislative branch.

Interestingly enough, the three personages of God are the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Breaking this down, we see an incredible fingerprint of divine providence.

Executive Branch: The Executive branch of our government is in charge of making sure that the laws of the United States are obeyed. The President of the United States is the head of the executive branch. The President gets help from the Vice President, department heads (called Cabinet members), and heads of independent agencies. This function strongly mimics the position of God the Father in the Trinity as he is the head over all as President.

Judicial branch: The Judicial branch includes criminal and civil courts and helps interpret the United States Constitution. As we learned, the most important part of the Judicial branch is the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court's role is to interpret the Constitution and limit the powers of the other branches of government. Interestingly, in scripture, Jesus is the **judge** of all mankind appointed by God the Father who is the head of the Executive branch ...

"*For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will. For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him*" (John 5:21-23).

Legislative Branch: Established by Article I of the Constitution, the Legislative Branch consists of the House of

Representatives and the Senate, which together form the United States Congress. The Constitution grants Congress the sole authority to enact legislation and declare war, the right to confirm or reject many Presidential appointments, and **substantial investigative powers**. Interestingly, the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, is said in scripture to "search the hearts" of human beings, hearkening back to the function of the **investigative powers** that the Legislative branch wields ...

"*Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And* ***he that searcheth the hearts*** *knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God*" (Romans 8:26-27).

If God were going to raise up a nation like America, there is no other perfect way he could have done so than to inspire men to create the three branches of it's government that reflect the three personages of himself and their respective functions. This is yet more evidence that the American Revolution and creation of the United States was God breathed and ordained, which would lead to the greatest spiritual revolution since biblical days and has effected mankind ever since, again pointing to the great prophecy of the vineyard found in Matthew 21 and America's intimate connection to it.

Keeping in mind that this does not mean that America will not eventually be judged for it's rebellion against God like ancient Israel was, but like ancient Israel, America was God's special idea and not just another nation among the many. The USA has been the shining light of liberty and the Gospel message of salvation through Jesus Christ to the entire world. America has been a nation that God has been "tabernacled" within and working mightily through from it's very inception right on up to the present day... from sea to shining sea quite literally.

Given this evidence, it becomes very problematic to say that America itself is Mystery Babylon. The final say in the controversy is an emphatic No, America is not Mystery Babylon. America has a much more glorious purpose and design from the Almighty. Keep in mind that this does not mean that America will not eventually be judged for it's rebellion against God like ancient Israel was, but to say America is Mystery Babylon is demonstratably false.

APPENDIX

The Roman Catholic Church has the largest number of followers of all denominations and religions, and yet her teachings and doctrines can be clearly exposed as being false. So many sincere people have been deceived by this church, which is the reason for this appendix to this article. It is intended to expose some of these false teachings and doctrines.

Catholic False Doctrine 1

The Roman Catholic Church claim that Peter was the 'rock' which the church was to be built on and the pope is his successor.

"The Lord made Simon alone, whom he named Peter, the 'rock' of his Church. He gave him the keys of his Church and instituted him shepherd of the whole flock. The office of binding and loosing which was given to Peter was also assigned to the college of apostles united to its head. This pastoral office of Peter and the other apostles belongs to the Church's very foundation and is continued by the bishops under the primacy of the Pope." (Catholic Catechism)

This is a complete abuse of scripture, just like the rest of the church's teachings. Roman Catholicism teaches that the apostle Peter was the first "pope" and that there has been an unbroken line of popes since Peter. From this belief they proclaim that the Roman Catholic Church is the only true church because Peter (and the Catholic Church) were given the "keys", so to speak, to the kingdom of God and no other church has been given those keys. The Catholic Church base this teaching on those well known words that Christ Jesus spoke to Peter in Matthew:

"And I say unto thee Peter, thou art Peter [petros], and upon this Rock [petra] will I build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18).

So who was the "rock" [petra] that Christ was talking about? Was it Peter like the Catholics believe? Or was Christ speaking of Himself? The best way of getting to the truth of this verse is by using the Bible to interpret itself. If Jesus really did mean that Peter was to be the "head" of the church, then we should find some support for this in the rest of the New Testament writings. It is necessary to start with the very apostle who these words were directed at; Peter. Who did Peter believe was the "rock" upon which the church was to be built? Speaking of Jesus Christ before the people, Peter said:

This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved"(Acts 4:11-12).

There is no reference at all in Acts 4 that the church was to be built upon Peter himself. Instead, he clearly points to Christ Jesus as the "stone" or "rock" that the church is to be built on, with Jesus being the head of it. Furthermore, peter clearly states that there is no other name that has been given amongst men whereby we can be saved ... only Jesus Christ. And yet the Catholic leaders teach that it is only through the Roman Church that salvation can be secured, due to Jesus giving Peter the "headship" of the church. But Peter himself disagrees with them!

"The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; ***Neither as being lords over God's heritage****, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away"* (1 Peter 5:1-4).

We can clearly see in the above text that Peter thought himself to be just an "elder" amongst the other elders of the church and nothing more. And he confirms Christ to be the "chief Shepherd" and only Leader of the Christian church. Further still, he says that no one is to act as a "lord" over God's heritage, that **no one is to exercise any kind of dominion over the church**. Interestingly, this is a rebuke to Roman Catholicism from the very man they believe to be their leader and first pope!

In the Apostle Paul's writings in the New Testament, not once does even he refer to Peter as any kind of leader of the church. but he does share something interesting:

"Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; And did all eat the same spiritual meat; And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual ***Rock*** *that followed them: and* ***that Rock was Christ"*** (1 Corinthians 10:1-4).

The Greek word for "rock" here is the same one used by Jesus in Matthew 16, which is "PETRA". And Paul is clearly pointing to Christ Jesus as that "Petra" (Rock).

Interestingly, the Old Testament is awash with verses describing God the Father and Jesus Christ as a "Rock" (see Deuteronomy 32:4; 1 Samuel 2:2; Psalms 18:2; Psalms 28:1.

Paul also states in 1 Corinthians 3:11 that *"no other foundation can be laid other than the one already laid which is Christ Jesus."* A building is built upon a foundation. So the "Rock" that Jesus said He would build His church on is the very foundation of the church, which is Christ Jesus crucified. The Christian church cannot be built upon a sinful man. There is nothing to build upon with Peter, because salvation requires faith in Christ Jesus alone, and Him crucified for our sins. That is the "rock," the rock of Calvary. There is no other foundation that the church can be built upon. And if we attempt to build a church on a sinful man, then that church will end up falling, just like Babylon will fall in Revelation 18 because she built her foundation upon the sand, rather than the true rock, which is Christ Jesus.

We also see in Luke 22 that Jesus did not give any one of the disciples the position of leader:

"And there was strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest" (Luke 22:24).

Note that this is **after** Matthew 16, so surely they should know who is the leader of them, because Jesus had already told them. The problem is, they clearly understood Jesus' words in Matthew 16 to be pointing to Himself, not Peter, which is why they are now arguing as to which one of them should be the leader. Jesus' reply to their arguing by stating that *"whoever wants to be the greatest, needs to be the least."*

In Galatians 2 we find Paul confirming that he was the apostle to take the gospel to the Gentile world, while Peter was the apostle charged with taking the gospel to the Jews. Paul states in verse 9 that it was **James, Cephas (Peter) and John who ALL "SEEMED" to be pillars of the church ...** making no distinction between them whatsoever.

What about the great church meeting in Acts 15? Did Peter stand out as the leader in this great meeting? No, Peter did speak, but if you read the whole of that meeting, you will see that in fact James seemed to be the presiding elder, as he was the one who gave the final decision on the question of circumcision (see Acts 15:19).

The Church is Built With "Stones"

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious?: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a ***rock*** *of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed" (1 Peter 2:5-8).*

One can now see the truth in these words from Peter himself. All who believe in Jesus Christ and accept that He is the Son of God, become *"lively* ***stones****"*, just like Peter did in Matthew 16. We all become "petros" (stones) and are built up into a spiritual house. A house that is built upon the "rock" which is Christ Jesus, the only sure foundation for the church. As already stated, the Christian church could never be built upon a sinful man, because it would end up falling. To build the church upon a sinner would be just like building a house upon the sand, which Jesus told us about in Matthew 7. The only sure foundation to build a house upon is the sinless life of Christ Jesus and His sacrifice on Calvary. That is the only rock the church can be safely built upon. And when the storm comes, the house will remain standing. There can only be one head of the body (church) and that is Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:18).

Unbroken Line of Popes?

Another teaching the Roman Catholic Church puts forward is the teaching that there has been an unbroken line of Popes since Peter. But there is a problem with this teaching also. First, no Christians for four centuries after the time of Christ believed that Peter was the leader of the church. This teaching wasn't accepted until around A.D.445 during the reign of Pope Leo I. It was only during this time that the Catholic Church needed to find some Biblical support for Papal supremacy.

The other problem with this teaching of an unbroken line is that in A.D.1045, Pope Benedict IX was ran out of office because of his unworthiness, with Silvester III taking his place. When Benedict IX returned, he sold the Papal throne to Gregory VI, but still refused to give up his own claim to the throne. So at this time, all three men claimed to be the legitimate Pope! Then in 1046, the German Emperor Henry III settled it by deposing all three Popes and appointing a fourth, Clement II.

So history hardly supports this "unbroken line" of Popes.

So Who Was the First Pope?

"But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one: To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God. And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries. But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done. Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost. And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. But Peter said unto him, ***Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money****. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God. Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee" (Acts 8:9-22).*

The Roman Catholic Church tell their followers that they can "purchase" salvation with money through the doctrine of indulgences! Simon Magus was a Pagan who blended his Pagan ways with Christianity. He asked Peter to pray for him so that none of the bad things Peter said would happen to him would come upon him. But it is widely accepted by Christian historians that Simon Magus did not leave his Pagan ways behind. Instead he blended them into his new "Christian" beliefs ...which is exactly what the Roman Catholic Church is, a blending of Paganism and Christianity. He tried to "purchase" the gift of God with money, which the apostle Peter strongly rebuked. And what has the Roman Catholic Church done all throughout history and still does today? **They offer salvation to those who are willing to BUY IT through indulgences!** The very thing that Simon Magus wanted to do.

You will notice from the verses in Acts 8 that Simon Magus was not just a Pagan who practiced sorcery. He was in fact the "leader" of the Pagan "church" and had many followers who thought that he was ordained of God:

"The author, or first representative of this baptized heathenism, according to the uniform testimony of Christian antiquity, is Simon Magus, who unquestionably adulterated Christianity with pagan ideas and practices, and gave himself out, in a pantheistic style for an emanation of God."(Schaff's History of the Church, Apostolic Christianity, Vol. 2, p. 566)

Where did Simon Magus end up going? When Justin Martyr wrote his Apology [152 A.D.], the sect of the Simonians appears to have been formidable, for he speaks four times of their founder, Simon; and we need not doubt that he identified him with the Simon of Acts 8. He states that he was a Samaritan, adding that his birthplace was a village called Gitta; he describes him as a formidable magician, and tells that he came to **ROME** in the days of Claudius

Caesar (45 A.D.), and made such an impression by his magical powers, THAT HE WAS HONORED AS A GOD, a statue being erected to him on the Tiber, between the two bridges, bearing the inscription 'Simoni deo Sancto' (the holy god Simon) (Dictionary of Christian Biography, Vol. 4, p. 682).

Simon Magus went to Rome and setup his new "church" there. An amalgamation of Paganism and Christianity! And yet the apostle Peter did not go to Rome. It was Paul who was the apostle to the Romans!

So who was the first pope? It was Simon Magus, the Pagan sorcerer!

Conclusion

If the Roman Catholic teaching of Peter being assigned as the first Pope in Matthew 16 was true, then the rest of the New Testament would clearly support this fact. But what we have instead is the complete opposite. None of the other apostles recognized Peter as the leader, and they all pointed to Christ Jesus as that "rock" upon which the church was to be built. So no, Peter was not the first "pope" or leader of the Christian church. But Simon Magus, the leader of the Pagan Church at that time fits perfectly as being the one who brought Paganism and Christianity together, which resulted in the Roman Catholic Church.

Jesus Christ is the ONLY "Rock" on which the entire church structure rests, for without Him there would be no church at all. Faith in Him as the Son of God makes it possible for us also to become sons of God (John 1:12). The realization and acceptance that Jesus Christ is indeed the Son of God, as Peter emphatically affirmed upon this occasion, is the key to the door of salvation. But it is merely incidental, not fundamental, that Peter was the first to recognize and declare his faith, which, upon this occasion, he did as spokesman for all the disciples.

"I am the way, the truth and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, BUT BY ME" (John 14:6)

Only on Christ, the solid Rock, will you stand. All other ground is sinking sand.

Catholic False Doctrine 2

The Roman Catholic Church sells the gospel message of eternal salvation through Indulgences.

"The Church also commends almsgiving, indulgences and works of penance undertaken on behalf of the dead … An indulgence is partial or plenary according as it removes either part or all of the temporal punishment due to sin. Indulgences may be applied to the living or the dead."(Catholic Catechism)

The Roman Catholic Church teaches that after death, everyone who has sinned will go to "purgatory", where they will face punishment for their sins. After this they are then allowed into the heavenly kingdom, once they have "PAID" for their sins. But with an indulgence, you can pay the church some money and you will receive an indulgence which will

either reduce your time in "purgatory" or erase it all together. The Vatican was built on indulgences, and Martin Luther exposed the error of indulgences back in the 1500's with his 95 Thesis. Anyone who knows the Bible will see that there is grave error in this teaching, because not only is the grace of God a free gift without cost to anyone, but Christ Jesus paid the full price for our sins **(Please see "The only way to Heaven and you" section at the end of this appendix section at the bottom of the page).**

What did Simon Magus, the Pagan sorcerer try to do? He tried to "BUY" the gift of God WITH MONEY, and the apostle Peter sharply rebuked him in very strong words, telling him that his money will die with him:

*"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the **gift of God"*** (Ephesians 2:8).

Have you ever heard of a free gift that you had to pay for? So why does the Catholic Church do this? So they can line their pockets with filthy money. The Vatican was built from the selling of indulgences. It was not only built upon a Pagan burial site, but was built from SELLING the gospel message of eternal salvation.

Catholic False Doctrine 3

The Roman Catholic Church claim that Mary was sinless.

"The church has become ever more aware that Mary "full of grace" through God was redeemed from the moment of her conception. This is what the dogma of the Immaculate Conception confesses ….. Mary was…. from the first moment of her conception …… preserved immune from all stain of original sin." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 491)

Not only does the Bible declare that **ALL** have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23), but Mary herself declared that she needed a saviour.

*"And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in **God MY Saviour"*** (Luke 1:46-47).

Catholic False Doctrine 4

The Roman Catholic Church claim that Mary is in Heaven and is co-redeemer with Jesus.

"That we may rightly say she (Mary) redeemed the human race together with Christ." (Benedict XV, Inter Sodalicia, 1918)

"In fact, by being assumed into Heaven she (Mary) has not laid aside the office of salvation, but by the manifold intercession she continues to obtain for us the grace of eternal salvation." (John Paul II, Dives in Misericordia, 1980, quoting Lumen Gentium)

There is ONLY ONE mediator between God and man, and that is Christ Jesus.

*"For there is one God, and **ONE MEDIATOR** between God and men, the man **Christ Jesus**"* (1 Timothy 2:5).

Catholic False Doctrine 5

The Roman Catholic Church claim that salvation is only possible through herself.

"There is no salvation outside the church (Roman Catholic Church)." (Pope John Paul II, Radio Message for Francisan Vigil at St Peter's and Assisi, October 3, 1981)

"Salvation is to be found nowhere but in the church (Roman Catholic Church), the strong and effective instrument of salvation is none other than the Roman Pontificate." (Pope Leo XIII, Allocution for the 25th Anniversary of his election, February 20, 1903. (Papal Teachings: The Church, Benedictine Monks of Solesmes, St Paul Editions, Boston, 1962, par. 653)

Again, the Bible exposes this teaching of the Roman Catholic Church as false. Not only that, it is one of the most dangerous doctrines there is. To say that salvation lies only within the Roman Catholic Church is blasphemous against the only one who can save us, which is Jesus Christ.

*"Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of **Jesus Christ** of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: **for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved"*** (Acts 4:10-12).

Catholic False Doctrine 6

The Roman Catholic Church teach their members to pray the 'rosary' and other repetitive prayers.

"The word Rosary means "Crown of Roses". Our Lady has revealed to several people that each time they say a Hail Mary they are giving her a beautiful rose and that each complete Rosary makes her a crown of roses …. In every apparition, the heavenly Mother has invited us to say the Rosary." (Quoted on a Catholic Website)

Members are taught to say the hail Mary and repeat it over and over again. Not only that, if you watch any Catholic TV, and see the nuns praying, you will see that they send the vast majority of their prayers to Mary, rather than Jesus. So what does Jesus Himself say about repetitive prayers? …

*"But when ye pray, **use not vain repetitions**, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their*

much speaking" (Matthew 6:7).

The above is just a very small selection of Roman Catholic teachings that are easily exposed as false by reading the Word of God in the Bible for yourself. There are a great many people who have been deceived by this apostate church. God exhorts such people to abandon her and come out of her ...

"And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues" (Revelation 18:4).

Catholic False Doctrine 7

The Roman Catholic Church claim that sacraments are NECESSARY for salvation.

"The Church affirms that for believers the sacraments of the New Covenant are necessary for salvation." (Catholic Catechism)

Not only does the Bible clearly state that we are saved by grace through faith alone in Christ Jesus, and NOT of works, but these sacraments are not the kind of "works" that even the Bible commends us to do. These are purely Roman Catholic sacraments like the mass (which is different from Biblical communion), and baptism by sprinkling (again, different from Biblical baptism).

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; Not of works lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Catholic False Doctrine 8

The Roman Catholic Church claim that the Priests literally bring down Christ Jesus into the bread and wine of Mass.

"It is by the conversion of the bread and wine into Christ's body and blood that Christ BECOMES PRESENT in this sacrament … By the consecration the transubstantiation of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ is brought about. Under the consecrated species of bread and wine Christ himself, living and glorious, is present in a true, real and substantial manner … In this divine sacrifice which is celebrated in the Mass, the SAME Christ who offered himself once in a bloody manner on the altar of the cross IS CONTAINED and offered in an unbloody manner." (Catholic Catechism)

The Catholic Church teaches that the Priests have the power to call Christ Jesus down from Heaven and place himself into the round wafer and wine ... there to be offered as a sacrifice over and over again. This is pure blasphemy. The Bible clearly teaches that Jesus Christ offered himself a sacrifice **ONCE** for all, and yet in the Roman Catholic Church,

Christ is sacrificed over and over again.

"*Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins and then for the people's; for this He did* ***ONCE****, when He offered up himself*" (Hebrews 7:27).

"*But this Man, after He had offered* ***ONE SACRIFICE FOR SINS FOR EVER****, sat down on the right hand of God*" (Hebrews 10:12).

Catholic False Doctrine 9

The Roman Catholic Church claim that the Eucharist is to be WORSHIPPED.

"*Because Christ himself is present in the sacrament of the altar he is to be honored with the WORSHIP of adoration … WORSHIP of the Eucharist … The Catholic Church has always offered and still offers to the sacrament of the Eucharist the cult of adoration.*" (Catholic Catechism)

By now, one can see that one false teaching leads into another. That wafer which is offered during mass is nothing more than a wafer. A piece of food. But this is the important bit to remember … within the Roman Catholic Church there is Pagan sun worship. You will find sun symbols all over this church, which is why the "day of the sun" (sun-day) is venerated. It is significant that the shape of this wafer that is used during mass is a perfect circle. Another symbol of the sun.

So what is being worshipped in mass? It's certainly not Jesus Christ. The leaders of the Roman Catholic Church have deceived their followers into worshipping the sun!

Catholic False Doctrine 10

The Roman Catholic Church claim that all sins MUST be confessed to a Catholic Priest.

"*One who desires to obtain reconciliation with God and with the Church, must confess to a priest … Confession to a priest is an essential part of the sacrament of Penance.*"

"*Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that* ***through this man*** *[Jesus] is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins*" (Acts 13:38).

"*Our Father which art in heaven … forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors*" (Matthew 6:9-13).

There is not the slightest hint in the Bible that says we need another mediator other than Christ Jesus (1 Timothy 2:5). It is very clear from the biblical text that we have DIRECT access to God through Christ Jesus and the only one other

than God who can forgive sins is Jesus Christ Himself (Matthew 9:6).

So we have yet another blasphemous teaching from the Roman Catholic Church.

Catholic False Doctrine 11

The Roman Catholic Church claim that salvation includes the Muslims.

"The plan of salvation also includes those who acknowledge the Creator, in the first place amongst whom are the Muslims; these profess to hold the faith of Abraham, and together with us they adore the one, merciful God, mankind's judge on the last day." (Catholic Catechism)

One will immediately notice that there is no mention of Jesus Christ our Saviour there!

*"I am the way the truth and the life; no man cometh to the Father **BUT BY ME"*** (John 14:6).

Catholic False Doctrine 12

The Roman Catholic Church teaches the false 3 in 1 'trinity' god.

"The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the central mystery of Christian faith and life. It is the mystery of God in himself. It is therefore the source of all the other mysteries of faith, the light that enlightens them. It is the most fundamental and essential teaching in the 'hierarchy of the truths of faith'. The whole history of salvation is identical with the history of the way and the means by which the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, reveals himself to men." (Catholic Catechism, No. 234)

The trinity doctrine denies the Bible truth concerning God and denies that Jesus Christ is the only begotten literal Son of God. The trinity teaches that the Holy Spirit is a separate being from the Father and Son, whereas the Bible teaches us that the Holy Spirit is the Spirit OF God and OF Christ. It is their own Spirit.

*"But to us there is but **one God, the Father**, of whom are all things, and we in him; AND one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him"* (1 Corinthians 8:6).

*'Truly our fellowship is with **the Father, and with his Son** Jesus Christ"* (1 John 1:3).

*"And this is eternal life, that they might know thee **the only true God**, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent"* (John 17:3).

*"But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the **Spirit of God** dwell in you. Now if any man have not*

*the **Spirit of Christ**, he is none of his"* (Romans 8:9).

*"And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the **Spirit of his Son** into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father"* (Galatians 4:6).

THE ONLY WAY TO HEAVEN AND YOU

In order to accept the offer of God's grace and his salvation, you must take the crucial three steps of ...

1. Agreeing – A belief and agreeing with God in all that he says in his word, the Bible, about the fact that you are separated from God, as every man and woman on the face of the earth are before accepting his salvation. The Bible reveals that all are separated from him in a spiritual state of death, or in another way that the Bible puts it, in a state of sin, that will result in eternal damnation. Agreeing with God in your heart that you are in need of his salvation. The Bible reveals that God looks upon the heart of a man, and thus, responds accordingly to the man or woman who comes to him for salvation in recognition of his inability to save himself. The Bible makes these facts very clear – "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23). The Bible describes these three kinds of death: *physical death (*the state experienced when life leaves our bodies); *spiritual death (*spiritual separation from God caused by our state of spiritual death, or state of sin that results in outward acts of sin on a daily basis as the Bible also puts it – the state of sin is received from the first man Adam); and finally *eternal death (*the fixed state entered into by the individual who dies physically while he or she is dead spiritually). It is eternal death, in particular, which is the horrible result of receiving the wages of sin. The Lord Jesus Christ frequently described such a death as being eternal (without end) in a destiny which he called Hell. He described Hell as a literal place of judgment (Matthew 13:42); a place of everlasting fire (Matthew 18:8); a place of torment (Luke 16:24,28); a place of weeping and gnashing of teeth (Matthew 13:50); a place of remorse (Mark 9:44-48); of bitter memory (Luke 16:25), and a place originally prepared for the Devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41). In fact, Jesus more often warned about Hell than he spoke about Heaven. It is not God's will or desire that any person should be consigned to perish in Hell (2 Peter 3:9), but rather that all should come to repentance of unbelief toward him and believe on him for the salvation of the individual's soul. But God's justice requires that the "soul who sins" (remains in it's state of death or state of sin) is the one who will die eternally (Ezekiel 18:4). So, agree with God, admitting that you are unable to save yourself and in a state of sin under God's just condemnation for that sin and that you are in need of his salvation.

2. Believing – Then, believe that God does not want you to perish eternally in the torment of Hell because of your sin. Believe that God loves you so much that he provided a way whereby he could still be a just, holy and righteous God, and yet pardon you. Believe that God did not just overlook sin, but that he sent his only begotten son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to provide salvation by personally paying the penalty for sin. Believe that Jesus Christ, whose life, death, burial and resurrection is the best-attested fact of antiquity, did come to earth to live, die, rise again and ascend to Heaven in order to provide justification and salvation for all who trust him. Believe that he, and he alone, can save you because he has fully satisfied the just demands of God. Believe that you can't become righteous in God's sight by your own effort. Believe that he wants to save you and that he will save you. The Bible provides a solid basis for such belief ...

"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9).

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved" (John 3:16-17).

"But God demonstrates his love toward us in this: while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8).

God presented him (Jesus Christ) as a sacrifice of atonement through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished – he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies the man or woman who has faith in Jesus (Romans 3:25-26).

"Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures … " (1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

"Jesus answered, "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).

"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out [drive away]" (John 6:37).

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me" (Revelation 3:20).

3. Calling – It is not enough to agree with God, admit your need, and believe that Christ can and will save you. You must act upon those facts. You must repent of the sin of your unbelief toward him and actively call upon him for the salvation of your soul based on the fact that you cannot save yourself because of your sins. You must be willing to completely turn from your own efforts to save yourself or from any other hope. You must come to Christ, calling upon him for salvation and counting on the fact that he will do what he has promised. This means simply taking the gift of pardon and eternal life which he offers. Merely believing about Jesus Christ without coming to him makes as much sense and is as effective as believing that a medication can successfully treat a fatal disease, but failing to take it. Yet again, the Bible emphatically and authoritatively provides the basis for such statements:

"He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God" (John 3:18).

The word translated "*believe*" here means to "rest one's entire weight and trust on the object or person in which the belief is placed." It requires action in keeping with the intellectual assent of that belief.

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13).

" … but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

The logical question you may be asking at this point is: "how do I come to Christ and call upon him?" The answer is that "calling upon the Lord" is just another term for praying, or talking to God. To talk to God is not a complicated process, dependent upon some special rituals. God has invited people to approach him through his Son in simple, straightforward terms. In fact, Jesus approved of the dishonest, despised tax collector who simply prayed, "God be merciful to me, a sinner." While the exact words of your prayer to God are not of vital importance (since God sees and knows the attitude of your heart), the following is the kind of prayer that you could pray in calling upon God for salvation …

"Dear Lord Jesus: I realize that I need you. I admit that I have sinned and that I deserve your just, eternal punishment for that sin. But I am sorry for my sin and I am turning to you and asking for forgiveness. I believe that you died and rose again to pay sin's penalty on my behalf. I come to you and open my heart to you. I ask you to come into my life, forgive me for all of my sin and make me your child. I invite you to take control of my life and to cause me to be the kind of person you would have me to be. I thank you for doing this because you have promised that whosoever calls upon you, as I am doing now, shall be saved. I pray this in the name of your Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen."

If this prayer expresses the desire of your heart, I urge you to sincerely and genuinely express it to God as your prayer. The Bible makes clear that when we believe on the Lord Jesus Christ in our heart, God forgives our sins and counts us righteous, and that when we openly confess with our mouth what we have done in our heart, God gives us assurance of that salvation (Romans 10:9-10).

"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, ***Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*** *Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee,* ***Ye must be born again" (John 3:3-7).***

Questions and comments can be left further down this page.